WOLFVILLE: Refuge from the Rat Race • THE WALKER TRAIL: Motive for Murder?

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Maclean's

JULY 13, 1998

EXCLUSIVE

Abuse of Power

When Base Chief Warrant Officer Everett Boyle complained that a senior officer tried to seduce a young female recruit, the brass reacted sharply. "They put the boots to me. They threatened to court-martial me." Now retired, Boyle joins a long line of critics of the military justice system.



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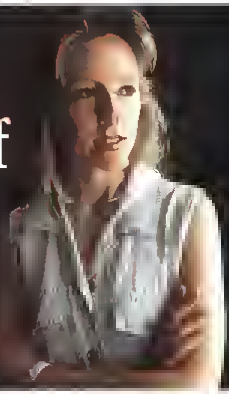
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Abuse of power



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With Call-Net's $1.8 billion takeover of Fonorola, Jun Koor is challenging the old-line telephone companies in the Stentor alliance—and reshaping the long distance market



JON CALLAS FOR MACLEAN'S

60 Refuge from the rat race

With a recent influx of young professionals, the draw of the Atlantic Theatre Festival and a technology innovation centre in the works, Wolfville, N.S., is enjoying boom-town status

From The Editor

Dealing with rot at the top



There is something rotten in the senior reaches of Canada's armed forces In recent weeks, as the brass has strained to cope with revelations of rape and harassment in the ranks—admirably, at times—some senior officers themselves have come under suspicion for ignoring allegations of impropriety That makes it difficult to believe that reform really is under way It may be that the old ways are too ingrained for anything to change The story of Everett Boyle, featured in this week's cover package, illustrates the point. As an experienced base warrant officer, responsible for the conduct of the troops, he butted heads with his superiors over the way they managed investigations to avoid bad publicity The credo, says Boyle, is clear "When a commander goes down, you surround him like a herd of elephants looking outward and you stay in that position until you're dead" (page 16). Richard Nixon had a simpler phrase "Deny, deny deny."



CFB Calgary exercises in 1995 assurance

While the theory of plausible deniability died with the Watergate scandal it appears to live on in the Canadian Forces The central command's stance, starting with the Somalia affair, has been see no evil, hear no evil That stubborn attitude has continued Too many military officials—and their retired boosters—have attempted to deflect allegations that point to a pattern of misconduct. When the head of the rape crisis centre in Barrie, Ont , near Canadian Forces Base Borden, recently went to a meeting with the local commander, expecting to help solve a festering problem, she was astounded when he attacked the credibility of the courageous women who have stepped forward to tell their stories (page 23) Retired major-general Lewis MacKenzie made light of a report about an assault at Gagetown, N B , suggesting that the woman involved was a nymphomaniac who participated in consensual sex. A three-week investigation by *Maclean's* has now established that the woman was mentally handicapped and that she is not satisfied with the way authorities handled their investigations of the incident (page 22)

It is time for the Chrétien government to do something uncharacteristic—to take action Clearly, the military cannot sort out its discipline problem on its own The Liberals need to call on some respected outsiders to cut through the haze A small blue-ribbon panel of civilians could travel to bases in the next two months and give women the assurance that action will be taken on their complaints by people who are not compromised

If there is any doubt about the prevailing ethos, listen to retired brigadier general Al Geddry, who was base commander at Gagetown when the gang assault took place in October, 1987 In those days, he told *Maclean's*, the military had a "wash your-dirty laundry-in-the-family" attitude. "That's how the military world was We can see now that wasn't a terribly good attitude to take " It wasn't then It isn't now

Robert Lewis

Newsroom Notes:

Back on the case

Led by retired major-general Lewis MacKenzie, critics dismissed a June 1 *Maclean's* report that five soldiers had raped a mentally handicapped woman in Gagetown N B In recent weeks, Associate Editor John Nicol went to Gagetown and a Quebec village to interview the woman, her parents and her former husband The results of the investigation, establishing what transpired, is part of this week's cover package on the way the military high command reacts when faced with allegations of misconduct



O'Hara, Driedger, Nicol: allegations of misconduct

Typical was the experience of retired chief warrant officer Everett Boyle, interviewed at length by Senior Writer Jane O'Hara at his home in Stephenville Crossing, Nfld Among documents Boyle gave *Maclean's* were details of how complaints by a young female private about a colonel who harassed her were ignored. Contributing to the cover story were Montreal Bureau Chief Brenda Branswell, who interviewed the woman and her former husband, and Senior Writer Sharon Doyle Driedger who explored the state of the military justice system Overseeing the package was Senior Editor Peeter Kopvillem



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The Mail



Vanier remembered for acts of kindness

Canada's best

Your choice of former Gov Gen. Georges P Vanier as the most important Canadian in Canada's history is right on target ("The 100 Most Important Canadians in History," Cover, July 1). In the 1960s, I had the honor of being on the household staff of the Vaniers, and if ever Canada had a statesman who was loved and respected not only in Canada but around the world, it was Georges Vanier. Although I witnessed many historical events, and saw many famous visitors to Rideau Hall, the event that stands out in my mind occurred on a tour of New Brunswick. A little girl came forward to present flowers to Madame Vanier and, after the customary curtsy, she started to walk away, but was called back by the governor general, who stood up, bent over and kissed her hand. It has often been said that a great man is not always remembered by his great deeds, but by his many acts of kindness, understanding and compassion towards others.

David A. Blackman, Ottawa

David Thompson cannot be ignored and left from the Discoverers list. He explored, mapped and recorded information on the vast western area of Canada. Also, I must laugh at the inclusion of architect Arthur Erickson. I worked in the new Canadian Embassy in Washington for the first two years it was open. For one who spent many hours in the building, it was dreary, grey, raw concrete, and very depressing.

George A. Godwin, Victoria

I look forward to the July 1 issue of your magazine. It always makes me realize how little Canadian history I was taught in school. This year's issue was no different. I thoroughly enjoyed reading about people that I knew, thought I knew, or had never heard of before. Well done.

Deborah Beckers, Burlington, Ont.

For me, the Nation Builders will include the two greatest prime ministers. Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Wilfrid Laurier. But beyond them, I shall always look to the men of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, 1914-1918. These people knew about suffering and sacrifice and what it was to be Canadian. As well as them, the next generation, who grew up in the Depression and then went off to fight Nazism, were the Nation Builders. The Mackenzie Kings, Trudeaus and Bourassas simply dotted a few i's and crossed a few t's.

Shaun R. G. Brown, Vancouver

I am astounded at your placement of K. C. Irving at the top of your list of Entrepreneurs. While I shan't disagree with Irving's moneymaking talent, I must disagree with your magazine's recognition of a man who went to such great means to funnel money out of Canada. In a country with the difficulties Canada has, isn't it up to Canada's Weekly Newsmagazine to take a leadership role and not celebrate those who take the money and run? I, too, am an entrepreneur. Unlike Irving, however, I do not intend to take as much as I can from a country that has already given me so much.

K. D. O'Cain, Qualicum Beach, B.C.

How sadly ironic that following Nellie McClung in the Heroes list, who established women as "persons," you would include Henry Morgentaler, who denies the personhood of unborn children. The movement of abortion from the back alley to the doctor's office makes the act no less offensive.

Susan Nisbet, La Salle, Man.

How a group of reasonably intelligent people could possibly consider including Celine Dion on a list of "The 100 Most Important Canadians," while excluding Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, Gordon Lightfoot, Kate and Anna McGarrigle, Robbie Robertson, Burton Cummings, Hank Snow, Bruce Cockburn and scores of other important Canadian songwriters, is unimaginable to me.

Jim Falconer, Toronto

I commend you for your tribute to the "Most Important Canadians." This is a worthwhile endeavor, although fraught with difficulties. I think a separate Writers category should have been established as a list that leaves out Margaret Laurence, Margaret Atwood and Emile Nelligan has some gaping holes in it.

Robert Normey, Edmonton

You list Pierre Elliott Trudeau as the number 2 Nation Builder of Canada. Many Canadians, including myself, would disagree with this listing. Canada is still reeling from the destructive Trudeau years and personal-agenda politics. It was he who started us on the road to a massive national debt and plunged us into the national unity crisis. He gave us the Charter of Rights and Freedoms that may have helped a minority of Canadians, but has torn the heart out of common-sense laws and standards for the great majority.

Eric J. Bysouth, Langley, B.C.

I would like to point out that Maurice Richard made his name during the Second World War, when many of his generation were giving their all in the war and competition was at its lowest.

Hugh Hedlin, Watrous, Sask.

It is incredible to me that a so-called national magazine completely ignores the one-third of Canadians not residing in Ontario or Quebec. Nation Builders such as former B.C. premier W. C. Bennett and Alberta Premier Ralph Klein are not even mentioned. Rather, for some unknown reason, you hail Pierre Trudeau, who dodged service in the Second World War, had a horrible fiscal track record and was no doubt the man most responsible for our current polarization.

Bill Mathisen, Vancouver

Could someone please explain to me why George Grant, the most important Thinker in Canada during the last half of the 20th century, was left off the list? How is it that a man recognized throughout North America and Europe as one of the most creative and disciplined minds of our time was not chosen by a group of Ontario and Quebec panelists? Perhaps because only one of your "experts" is from the Maritimes, the place where Grant chose to live and write.

Kevin Little, Halifax

Your special issue turned out to be nothing more than a blatant exercise in political correctness. In fact, Jack Granatstein even admits to the panel's slant towards political correctness where he states in his opening article: "We tried to offset this [weighting of dead white males] by ranging widely over time and taking account of the requirements of balance—regional, gender and ethnic—and we endeavored to be inclusive." But why must there be a requirement of balance? Had it turned out that "The 100 Most Important Canadians in History" were "dead white males," so what? It seems to me that the panel's only purpose was to reflect reality.

Art Heaps, Calgary

Pity you didn't create an Institutions category. Surely, *Maclean's* would rank right up there with the CBC as one of the great forces helping Canadians to develop both a sense of identity and a deeper understanding of their history and culture.

Cam Murray, Kamloops, B.C.

Quebec bashing

I'm so tired of your Quebec-bashing ("Pride and prejudice," From the Editor, June 22). Your article is as mean-spirited as the man you quote [attacking the rules for school elections]—except that you have more power. You prove once more that Quebec does not have the monopoly on small minds. As long as English Canada continues to idolize Canadians who made it in the United States ("America By Canadians," Cover, June 22), you are reinforcing my belief that without Quebec, Canada would long ago have been gulped up by the United States—crying thank-you all the while.

Marcelle Duguay, Montreal

A degree of criticism

In "Farewell to equal access" (July 1), Ann Dowsett Johnston touts the liberal arts degree for generating a graduate with "critical, creative and analytical thinking." My personal experience as an engineer is that a far greater percentage of engineers can discuss Chaucer and a wide variety of other liberal arts material, than liberal arts graduates can discuss any scientific or technical discipline. Given the impact of technology on our lives today, that gap is inexcusable. The liberal arts program, moreover, is confounded by the tendency of people who do not know what they want, or who are uncertain of their capabilities, to seek that degree and thus dilute the overall quality of a program that does produce some excellent graduates.

Glen C. Bodie, Toronto

As a philosophy graduate, while I appreciate Ann Dowsett Johnson's concerns for our job prospects, she did not consider that a philosophy degree can be the best foundation for further study in more vocationally pragmatic fields. Past surveys indicate that undergraduate philosophy majors enjoy a high acceptance rate (sometimes the highest) in medical, law and graduate management schools. Philosophy graduates who supplement their degree with marketable skills guarantee their entry to the workforce and their ability to progress to leadership positions—in other words, they have the best of both worlds.

Andrew Yu, Kingston, Ont.

'Hollywood standards'

You state, in your review of *The Opposite of Sex*, that Christina Ricci is "a slightly pudgy *fille fatale*" ("Smart and sultry," Films, July 1). Slightly pudgy? I can see no basis for this description other than Ricci does not look like she's about to keel over from malnutrition. If you think that the healthy body of a young woman qualifies as pudgy, then you have clearly absorbed too many Hollywood standards.

Caitlin Bushy, Vancouver

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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OVERFLOW

Anybody who fears that Canadians are ill-informed or uninterested in Canada's past and her people, would be cheered by the reaction to "The 100 Most Important Canadians in History." Actually, the flow of letters started before the list appeared, when readers eagerly answered the invitation to send in their nominations for The 100. Publication of the July 1 cover package brought in 75 more letters. Many agreed with the selections made by Prof. Jack Granatstein and his panel of experts, many did not—especially when it came to the inclusion of Pierre Elliott Trudeau as a Nation Builder. Others argued for those they believed *should* have been included. All were passionate.

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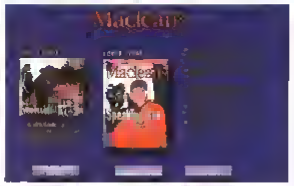
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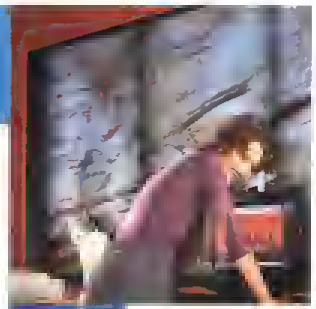
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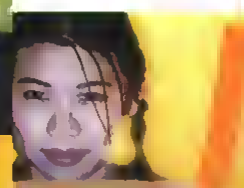
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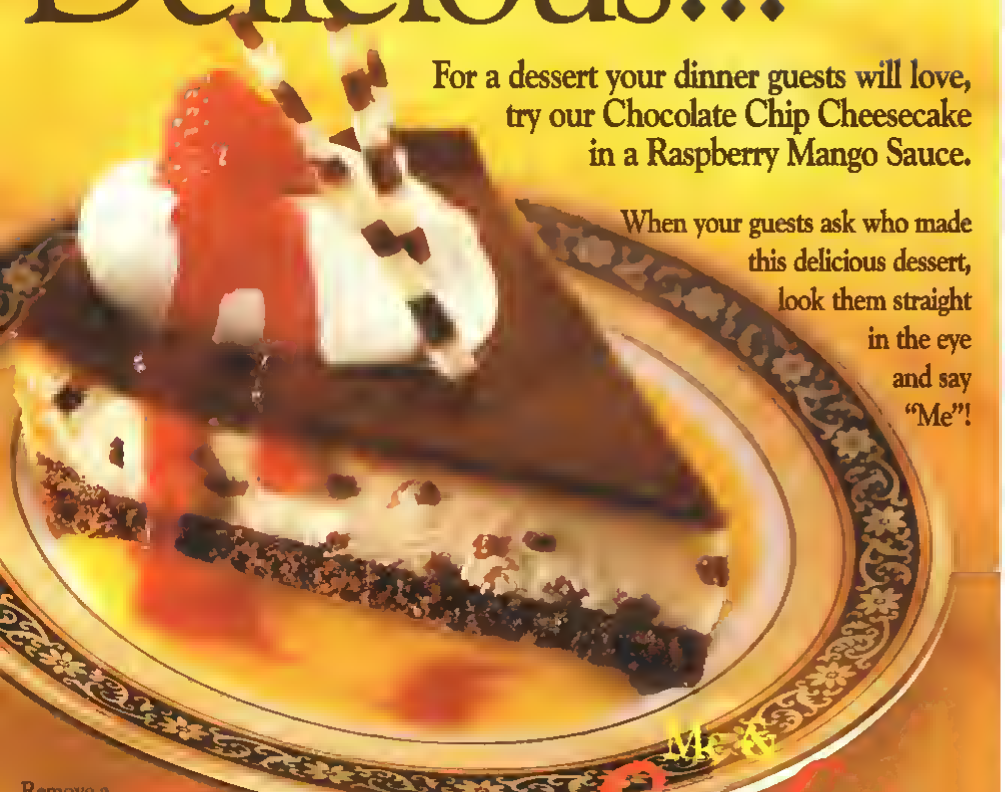
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www.microsoft.com/windows98/internet/

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When your guests ask who made this delicious dessert, look them straight in the eye and say "Me"!



Remove a Cheesecake from the freezer. Slice and thaw at room temperature for 30 minutes. Puree a fresh, ripe mango or canned peaches. Spoon sauce onto serving plates. Place slice over sauce. Top slice with whipped cream and fresh raspberries. Drizzle with melted, strained raspberry jam. Garnish with chocolate curls*.

*Quick tip: Try using a carrot peeler to make chocolate curls.

Me ♥ Sara Lee



Another View



Charles Gordon

Turn back the clock with Joe Clark

The other day they opened up something called the Walk of Fame in Toronto. There had been a hope, vainly cherished by some people, that Canada could be one of the few countries of the world without a Walk of Fame in it. But you can't have everything, or not have everything, these days. We have a Walk of Fame just like the Americans do, and people can get off the tour bus and look at it.

The long-held suspicion that we are not a Walk of Fame kind of place is heightened when it is learned that the next leader of the Progressive Conservative party could be Joe Clark, not a Walk of Fame kind of guy. His style has a quality of anti-charisma, yet we elected him our prime minister in 1979. There is a hope among members of an older political generation that his comeback signals a shift to better, and older, political days.

For all of us, there is a tendency to think that the political culture we grew up with is the real and lasting one, and all shifts from it are temporary deviations. Thus, for some Canadians it seems only right that Joe Clark would re-enter the political scene. It is a signal that we are returning to the normal and proper way of doing things.

That normal way would consist of a three-plus party system with the contenders grouped around the centre. Each party would choose a leader acceptable to the entire range of opinion in the party, if only as a compromise—or especially as a compromise. From time to time, fringe movements would spring up and be reflected momentarily in Parliament, before either dying or becoming absorbed by the other parties.

That system, the system with which Joe Clark grew up, lasted until 1993, when Reform and the Bloc Québécois exploded out of the smoking ruins of the Conservative party. What we have now is an ideologically and regionally based five-party system. It is probably not grouped around the centre, the centre being rather difficult to locate. If one exists, you can be sure the Liberals have located it, and if the Liberals seem oriented somewhat to the right, that's probably where the centre is.

Now, there are Canadians coming of age politically under today's setup who think it is natural and just fine. This new breed would comprise the people in the Bloc, of course, as well as the Reform party and the rightward edges of the Conservative party. The splintering of the system both reflects the growing power of the right and gives it more power. (For the left, it is one of political life's sad little ironies. New Democrats used to insist that a more ideologically based politics would bring power to them.)

Into this hostile landscape rides Joe Clark. His goal is to return the Conservative party to the centre, make it a broadly based coalition of regions and ideas and, by the way, cause Reform to become irrelevant and disappear and the Bloc to wither and die. Under Clark, the Conservative party was in the centre, reaching out both to Quebec and to its own more free-enterprising wing. Clark's government failed because of tactical blunders rather than the unpopularity of its ideas. That was shown by the success, only four years later, of Brian Mulroney, who took essentially the same ideas and won two elections with them. When he fell massively out of favor, his coalition splintered, the Quebec wing leaving to form the Bloc, western supporters running into the arms of Reform and a tiny little group of moderates remaining as the Tory party.

That tiny group, running under Jean Charest, didn't make much of a dent in last year's federal election, but some argue that its failure lay in an unwise attempt to attract right-wing votes and that the party has a bright future if it can find a way to recapture its moderate qualities. With voters disenchanted with the stodginess of the Liberals and bored with the antics of Reform, a Progressive Conservative party that returns to the ideas of Clark, Stanfield and even Diefenbaker stands a chance to recapture a position of strength in the political system. Clark's further hope is that, as a westerner, he can bring back some Reform supporters whose beef with the Tory party was more regional than ideological.

> His return could mean a revival of the good old days when Canada had an enviable social system and a civil lifestyle

With a Progressive Conservative resurgence would come a resumption of what many Canadians see as the traditional order of things, and a return to the good old days. That, of course, is not a unanimous opinion. Where those of Joe Clark's generation see a period of consensus and prosperity, those of a newer political generation are convinced that the old system is responsible for the debt and deficits that the new breed of politicians have been working so painfully to overcome, the pain not being theirs but ours.

Whatever political party they control, the members of the new breed will continue that work, even if it means further attacks on social programs. The question is whether they see the Conservative party as the best battleground upon which to fight. The other possibility is that the new breed will decide the Conservative party is not worth fighting for and turn their attentions to Reform or some new vehicle for uniting the right.

Those of the older political culture clearly do consider the Conservative party relevant. It exemplifies, in their minds, a period in which Canada developed an enviable social system, a civil lifestyle and great wealth, relative to most of the world. It is a period in which no one could imagine the existence of the Bloc Québécois or a Reform party, nor the need for either.

Times, clearly, have changed. It would not be a disaster to see them change back and it may take a man of very little fame to make it happen.

Opening NOTES

Edited by TANYA DAVIES

Challenging new frontiers

If Laurie Gaucher and his team reach the summit of Mount Everest in the year 2000, it will mean more than just conquering the world's tallest peak. They will also be sending a message to indigenous people that anything is possible—plus they will be making history because Gaucher, a Cree from the Lesser Slave Lake reserve, north of Edmonton, is leading the first all-aboriginal alpine team. "Everyone looks up to those who climb Everest," says the 36-year-old from his Calgary home. "And I thought this would be a unique way to lead our people."

The mountaineer has dreamed of climbing Everest since he was six years old, and started planning the trip in 1995. Naming the expedition the Ascent of the Aboriginal Spirit, he has assembled a team of 12 qualified native climbers—eight Canadians, a Maori from New Zealand, a native guide from Tanzania, a Tibetan Sherpa and a native Indian from Chile. They will practise as a group with five pre-Everest climbs on various peaks around the world. Honing their skills is the main purpose, but Gaucher says they also want "to share native traditions with other indigenous cultures—this will be a spiritual journey."

And also a very expensive one. The team requires $1.7 million for the expedition, and has only raised $5,000 so far. The divorced father of three, though, has no doubts that the team will succeed. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance for our people. It is our destiny to climb Everest."



Gaucher (back): "a unique way to lead our people"

An indelible impression

Writer Christopher Heard may have established a new benchmark in brand loyalty. Heard, the 34-year-old author of the biography on *Titanic*-director James Cameron, *Dreaming Aloud*, capped off a recent night on the town in Los Angeles with actor Johnny Depp by getting his left biceps tattooed with the logo of his publisher, Doubleday.

Toronto-based Heard, a film critic on the syndicated cable television show *Reel to Real*, chose the dolphin-and-anchor logo to commemorate his writing debut. "I passed a bookstore and there was a huge display of my book, and just for a second my breath caught in my throat," he says. When he mentioned his reaction to a tattoo-covered Depp, the actor urged him to get a tattoo to mark the occasion. "He said, 'If you get that put on you, when you see it, you can live it over and over again.' And I was sold."

Heard's mother wasn't as thrilled, but the staff at Doubleday were ecstatic. At last month's Canadian Booksellers Association convention, Heard felt like a circus attraction as word of his tattoo got out. "I would be talking to somebody and I would feel someone else pulling my sleeve up to look at it."



Heard, brand loyalty

BEST-SELLERS

FICTION

1. **A Widow for One Year,** *John Irving (1)*
2. **I Know This Much Is True,** *Wally Lamb*
3. **Barney's Version,** *Mordecai Richler*
4. **Pandora,** *Anne Rice (7)*
5. **The Eleventh Commandment,** *Jeffrey Archer (3)*
6. **Cities of the Plain,** *Cormac McCarthy (2)*
7. **Ex Libris,** *Ross King (5)*
8. **The Street Lawyer,** *John Grisham (4)*
9. **Damascus Gate,** *Robert Stone (9)*
10. **Black and Blue,** *Anna Quindlen (10)*

NONFICTION

1. **The Gifts of the Jews,** *Thomas Cahill (4)*
2. **Understanding Men's Passages,** *Gail Sheehy (1)*
3. **A Walk in the Woods,** *Bill Bryson (3)*
4. **The Man Who Listens to Horses,** *Monty Roberts (5)*
5. **Simple Abundance,** *Sarah Ban Breathnach (6)*
6. **The Millionaire Next Door** *Thomas Stanley and William Danko (8)*
7. **Angela's Ashes,** *Frank McCourt (2)*
8. **Reflections of a Siamese Twin,** *John Ralston Saul (10)*
9. **Who Killed Canadian History?,** *Jack Granatstein (7)*
10. **A Mock Swimming,** *Malachy McCourt (9)*

() Position last week

Compiled by Brian Bethune

Help with the Canada quiz

For citizens who failed the recent Dominion Institute Canada Day quiz, help can be found in *Brain Quest Canada: 1000 Questions & Answers* (Thomas Allen & Son). Geared to older children, the publication, assembled in card strips for different categories, can educate patriots of all ages.



GOLDFARB POLL

As Canadians enter the swimsuit season, more adults are feeling overweight than they did eight years ago, but are exercising more regularly in an attempt to shed those extra pounds. The percentage of adults who

	1990	1994	1998
Feel a lot overweight	9	10	13
Feel a little overweight	44	47	47
Feel neither over- nor underweight	38	36	32
Feel a little underweight	8	7	7
Feel a lot underweight	1	0	1
Have been on a diet in the past year	28	23	21
Currently exercise regularly	30	34	36

Data collected in January, 1998 — Goldfarb Consultants Limited

EMPORIUM

Percentage of Canadians who stash chips, candy, granola bars and chocolate in their desks at work 70

Percentage of Vancouverites who say they choose healthy snacks over foods that simply taste good 90

Of Montrealers 50
Of Torontonians 12

SOURCE: MEAD JOHNSON

Tonnes of beef in cold storage:
In Alberta 8,194
In Manitoba 89
In Atlantic Canada ... 711

SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

DOUBLE TAKE

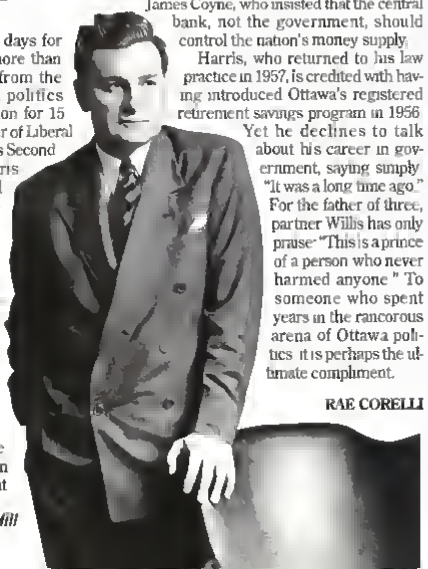
Walter Harris

These are quiet, reflective days for Walter Edward Harris—more than half a century removed from the storm centre of Ottawa politics where he served with distinction for 15 years. The last surviving member of Liberal prime minister Mackenzie King's Second World War government, Harris now 94, lives in a spacious old house in the southwestern Ontario community of Markdale. Until last January, when failing eyesight and diminished hearing forced him to remain at home, Harris showed up regularly at his office in the Markdale law firm of Harris, Willis and McGarry. "I think he's outlived most of his clients," says partner Eber Willis.

First elected to Parliament in 1940, Harris regained his seat in 1945 after wartime army service in France. He won re-election in 1949, when Louis Saint-Laurent had succeeded King to the Liberal leadership, and again in 1953. In July, 1954, Harris was appointed minister of finance, and soon locked horns with outspoken Bank of Canada governor James Coyne, who insisted that the central bank, not the government, should control the nation's money supply.

Harris, who returned to his law practice in 1957, is credited with having introduced Ottawa's registered retirement savings program in 1956. Yet he declines to talk about his career in government, saying simply, "It was a long time ago." For the father of three, partner Willis has only praise: "This is a prince of a person who never harmed anyone." To someone who spent years in the rancorous arena of Ottawa politics, it is perhaps the ultimate compliment.

RAE CORELLI



Harris in 1954: 15 years on the Hill

CAPITAL CONFIDENTIAL

No Canadian cabinet minister would ever be so misguided as to schedule an important meeting during the seventh game of the Stanley Cup finals. But how was Canadian Heritage Minister Sheila Copps to know that World Cup fever would infect the international culture summit she convened in Ottawa last week? During one of the bilateral meetings, she informed Bozo Biskupic, Croatia's culture minister, that his country's soccer team had squeaked by Romania 1-0. Afterwards, in a conversation with *Maclean's*, Copps jokingly attributed Biskupic's readiness to commit his country to hosting an international meeting on the relationship between culture and violence to victory-induced euphoria.

Later that day, Britain's minister for the arts, Mark Fisher, ducked out of the meeting early, claiming a previous engagement. Wherever he was bound, he didn't get far. Standing in the lobby of the National Arts Centre, just metres from the meeting's wrap-up news conference, he watched the game between England and Argentina come down to an agonizing penalty kick shootout, which ended England's World Cup hopes. Culturally speaking, it was a time out.

Passages

RETIRING: Hall of Fame jockey **Sandy Hawley**, 49, in Toronto. Hawley was the first jockey to record 500 wins in a single season in 1973. During his 30-year career, he won 6,449 of his 31,455 races—including four victories in the Queen's Plate—and more than $88 million in purse earnings. The Oshawa, Ont., native earned the Order of Canada and was honored as North America's top jockey in 1976. He will now act as the public-relations ambassador for the Ontario Jockey Club.



SENTENCED: **Venard (Len) Gaudet**, former chairman of the Toronto investment firm Osler Inc., to four years in prison, after pleading guilty to 105 counts of falsifying financial statements.

SIGNED: NHL free-agent centre **Doug Gilmour**, 35, to a multi-year contract with the Chicago Blackhawks.

MARRIED: Entertainer **Barbra Streisand**, 55, and actor **James Brolin**, 57, at Streisand's Malibu, Calif., home. It was her second marriage, his third.

FIRED: Editor of the weekly magazine *U.S. News & World Report*, **James Fallows**, 48, in Washington. Fallows attributed his departure to disagreements with magazine owner and editor-in-chief Montreal native **Mort Zuckerman**.

DIED: Co-founder of the Bloc Québécois **Gilles Rocheleau**, 62, of intestinal cancer, in Hull, Que. The former Quebec Liberal and mayor of Hull created the political party with **Lucien Bouchard** in 1990.

DIED: One of British Columbia's first black politicians, **Emery Barnes**, 68, of cancer, in Victoria. The New Orleans native played with the Canadian Football League before settling in Vancouver. He was first elected to the B.C. legislature in 1972, and retired as speaker in 1996.

DIED: **Galina Brezhnev**, 69, the flamboyant daughter of former Soviet leader **Leonid Brezhnev** and his wife, **Viktoria**, of a stroke, in Moscow.

ABUSE OF POWER

BY JANE O'HARA

Critics say the military justice system has failed



In his 37 years of military service, Everett Boyle was a by-the-book, spit-and-polish airman, a stubborn Newfoundlander who proudly "wore the fabric" of the Canadian Forces. Trained as an air defence technician, Boyle began his career as a "fighter cop," monitoring the Pine Tree Line radar system that tracked unknown aircraft flying over the Arctic. He ended his service in North Bay, Ont., in the highest rank possible for an enlisted man —chief warrant officer. As base CWO, he was an unflinching disciplinarian responsible for the morale, conduct and discipline of the 2,200 noncommissioned personnel at North Bay—all but the officers. In June 1990, Brig.-Gen. A. J. (Butch) Waldrum, North Bay's base commander, summed up Boyle's character when he wrote: "Simply stated, CWO Boyle will exude military excellence until the day he takes off the uniform. There are few people who can get in front of him for either leadership or dedication."

But six months after that commendation, Boyle's reputation was ripped apart by senior officers in North Bay when he pushed for an investigation into allegations that Col. Gary George, the commander of 22 Radar Control Wing, had been sexually harassing one of his married privates. "I took a terrible pounding," says Boyle. "I'm a proud man and I don't like to be kicked, but they put the boots to me. They intimidated me, they tried to fire me, they threatened to court-martial me. They had me in their offices sometimes twice a day, sometimes for hours trying to make me back off. But I wouldn't quit. I took on the responsibility to protect my subordinates. I would not back down."

During his career, he says, he witnessed four other incidents where military superiors either covered up for officers —or fixed the outcomes of investigations to protect the Forces from bad publicity. In some of those instances, he also went to bat for a subordinate—and ended up butting heads with his military superiors. Boyle says that officers are taught to stick together from their first days in officer training when they memorize the credo: "When a commander goes down, you surround him like a herd of elephants looking outward and you stay in that position until you're dead."

By the time he retired in 1991, Boyle says, he had come to believe that the military justice system had eroded dramatically—if not irrevocably. "In every case I saw where an officer was in trouble, the military's first instinct was to cover it up," says Boyle, who is now 62 and retired in Stephenville Crossing, Nfld., in a house overlooking St. George's Bay, where he grew up. "If it was an enlisted man, they'd have him by the back of the ears and make an example of him. But officers protect officers. If you get in their way, they have awesome power."

And in speaking out, Boyle has joined a growing chorus of past and present members of the Forces who say the military justice system, with its incestuous structure, its closed system of investigations, trials and punishments, has failed—and must be reformed.

Military commendations hang on the walls of Boyle's house. A model of a CF-18 sits on a table in a hallway. They are reminders of his time in the service, but the real treasures from those years are the military files that he keeps in his basement in cardboard boxes. Among them are documents—a two-inch thick sheaf—that tell the story of his fight to get justice for Sylvie Savard and her husband, François Morel, both of whom also spoke to *Maclean's*. "I got it all on paper," Boyle says, "because I knew that some of these officers have a habit of forgetting conversations."

For Savard, who was an administrative clerk working in "the hole"—the NORAD complex a mile underground in North Bay—the troubles began at a staff-only Christmas party at Corfina's restaurant in 1989. George, commander of 22 Radar Control Wing, and in full uniform, asked Savard, then a private, to sit beside him and share a litre of wine. Savard, who now lives in St-Hubert, Que., says she had been drinking beforehand. "I got to a point where I was pretty drunk," she adds. For a lowly private, the attention from the powerful colonel was daunting—and intimidating. She confided to George that she had had a fight with her husband, also a private, before the party, and he offered her advice. "He was the big boss," Savard recalls. "He was like a school principal and I a Grade 1 student. I looked up to this man. He was old enough to be my father."

Earlier in the evening, Savard says, she had arranged for a ride home with a friend. But George, she says, insisted he would give her a lift, suggesting that they continue their conversation—perhaps even go dancing—after the party. "I was naive," she says. "I thought we'd be in a public place with lots of people." But when they left the party, the plans changed. The colonel said he had another place to go, telling Savard that he had access to private rooms he used for meetings. George then stopped by his apartment to change out of his uniform, stopped again to buy a bottle of wine—and then drove to the local Relax Inn. "A motel?" said a startled Savard as they drove up. "I remember saying very clearly to him," she recalls, " 'Well, as long as talking is all you have in mind.' "

But once in the room, while counselling her about her marital difficulties, Savard says, George started unbuttoning her blouse. She immediately asked to go home and George seemed upset. "I remember him saying so clearly, 'No one has ever turned me down before.' " He drove her back to the officer's mess parking lot and dropped her off in the freezing cold, a 10-minute walk from her home. "I could have passed out and people would have found me the next day frozen stiff," Savard says. She came home to a worried, distrustful husband—and lied about where she had been.

While her marital situation worsened, so did her life in the military. She says George began harassing her at work. To this day, Savard says, "I can still hear his voice whispering in my ear, I can still feel him rubbing up against me at the photocopier. I was getting so sick and tired of this, I would just get home and cry." She considered telling her supervisor about George, but thought that course of action would destroy the career she had dreamed of since first joining the air cadets at the age of 13. "I was afraid nobody would believe me, him being a colonel," she says. Instead, she asked for a transfer and within a year she was posted to the Forces recruiting centre in Montreal. She left her husband, a Canadian Forces firefighter, behind, but he visited often as they tried to patch up their marriage. "The main reason I left was I didn't want to go to work any more," Savard says angrily. "I didn't want to see George's face."

Once out of North Bay, Savard finally told her husband about the Christmas party incident and the pressure George had put her under at work. "That's when I got very mad," says Morel, now living in a Quebec City suburb (the couple finally divorced in 1993). "Officers don't have the right to do this. If I had done this with a colonel's wife, I would have been destroyed." Morel decided to rejoin his wife and baby son in Montreal, and put in his release from the service. But before he left he consulted with Boyle—and filed a three-page redress of grievance, dated



Boyle in uniform: the highest rank possible for an enlisted man

Nov 26, 1990, against George "Now, I'm no longer afraid and will complain," Morel wrote "It is not fair that these officers go on like nothing happened knowing that people are scared to step forward because of their rank Do they know the damage they caused? I deserve the satisfaction of knowing they will be stopped from doing this to others."

For Boyle, who had spent much of his career disciplining enlisted soldiers, the grievance—if borne out by an investigation—could have resulted in three charges against George conduct unbecoming an officer, abuse of authority and fraternization with a subordinate But Boyle's rank did not give him the authority to investigate officers He took the grievance to base commander Col Edward Jackson, who in turn passed it up the chain of command to Maj Gen Dave O'Blenis But a warning came down Boyle was to stay out of the affair and not help Morel. "I started to sense that I was the villain," says Boyle, who at the time was scheduled to retire in four months "They started an investigation not on George, but on the two privates. They were trying to find dirt on them I wasn't having any of it."

When Boyle refused to stay out of the fight, Jackson sent him a two-page memo, dated Feb 18, 1991, dismissing him from most of his key duties He was reinstated a few days later, when Jackson discovered Boyle had written to two high-level chief warrant officers informing them about the situation One of them, Pat Sarty, the chief warrant officer of the air force, took the complaint to Gen Fred Sutherland, then the commander of the air force. Sarty, now retired after a distinguished 37-year military career, recalls that Sutherland was upset by George's alleged behavior. "Everyone at every level who came in contact with this information thought that something was definitely wrong," he told *Maclean's*

But senior officers at North Bay called Morel to three meetings—where they pressured him to withdraw his complaint During the first encounter, they warned him that he was ruining the reputation of a colonel and told him that he had no physical proof of the Relax Inn incident On hearing that, Boyle drove to the Relax Inn and got photocopies of receipts showing that George had been at the hotel that night—and even used his military identification to get a room discount. "Not only did he want to seduce one of my privates, he wanted to do it cheaply," he says But the pressure on Morel continued to mount. During the subsequent meetings, officers berated him about his grievance, at one point forcing him to break down in tears. "I was shaking like a leaf," he says "I couldn't take it any more. I was seeing my world fall down around me."

The hammer also swung towards Savard Although she was never interviewed by North Bay officials about the incident, in Montreal her superiors at the recruiting centre suddenly began criticizing her behavior She started receiving anonymous phone calls pressuring her to keep quiet An officer, she says, told her that her work clothes—wool socks, sweat pants and a sweater—had been deemed "too sexy." "Soon after my husband put in his redress, it turned Montreal into North Bay," she says. "The nightmare started again I felt Col George was still hunting me It was no coincidence."



CHRISTOPHER MORRIS FOR MA

Savard: 'I was afraid nobody would believe me'

Although Boyle retired in June, 1991, he continued to support Morel and Savard in their struggle. But the grievance went nowhere, and in 1994, while still a member of the military, Savard filed a complaint against George and the Canadian Forces with the Canadian Human Rights Commission A year later, before the commission heard the case all of the parties agreed to settle the complaint. Savard, who was worn out from the fight and who left the military, received a monetary settlement from the Canadian Forces—she is not allowed to disclose the amount—and a letter of apology from George

It was small comfort, given that the incident

A NEW TWIST IN THE LABBE CASE

Canada's top soldier, Gen Maurice Baril, and Col Serge Labbé were brothers in arms, both members of the tight-knit Van Doos—Canada's Royal 22nd Regiment Despite the heavy criticism Labbé suffered for his role as commander of the Somalia mission, Baril still called him "the best colonel in the army" in 1996 and was pushing for Labbé to be promoted to brigadier-general But last week, after two review boards recommended against it, the chief of defence staff announced that Labbé, 45, would not be promoted To insiders it was a signal that Baril was distancing himself from the colonel who many thought was on the fast track. The reason: Baril himself had been caught up in a web of sexual harassment allegations against Labbé "They tossed Labbé overboard," said one source "He was too much of a liability."

Labbé's latest troubles started in mid-June when the military began investigating charges that, in 1996, he had sexually harassed a waitress at the Staff College in Kingston, Ont when he was commandant of the school. The allegations were first made by Capt Bruce Poulin in a memo he wrote and, he says, personally delivered to Gen Bill Leach—the head of the army—two years ago Leach was caught off guard recently when a copy of Poulin's memo surfaced at a news conference while Leach was explaining the military's new get-tough policy against sexual abuse and harassment. When asked what he had done to investigate the allegations, Leach said he did not "recall" receiving the memo

After that embarrassing gaffe, Defence Minister Art Eggleton ordered an investigation into Poulin's allegations against Labbé, who is now Canada's senior military officer with NATO in Brussels, and into Leach's handling of the affair. Baril became part of that inquiry after investigators read excerpts from Poulin's diary that showed he had also discussed the harassment allegations with Baril. Last week, the chief of defence staff would not comment on the latest twist in the affair because it was under investigation

J.O



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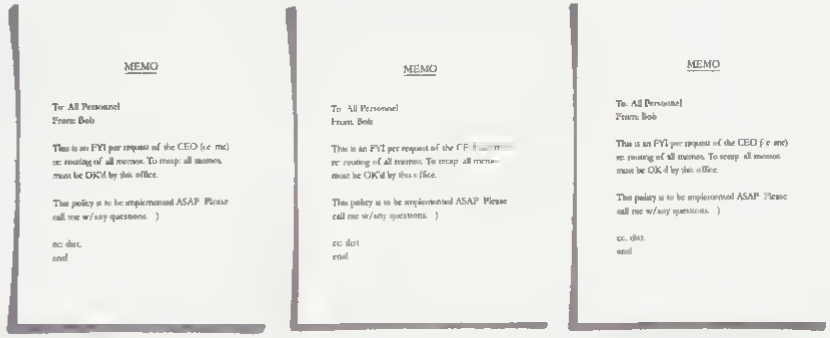


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cost both Morel and Savard their careers, and the continual pressure contributed to the final breakdown of their marriage. In his letter to Savard, George wrote: "I wish to apologize for any misunderstanding about any perceived intention you may have had about my conduct concerning the evening of Dec. 15, 1989. I acknowledge that my conduct was inappropriate in that a superior officer should not have allowed a situation to develop which had the appearance of impropriety. I also wish to point out that at no time did any form of sexual contact or relations take place between us. Please accept my apologies as stated above."

After repeated requests, George, now in Air Command at Winnipeg, declined to speak to *Maclean's*. Jackson, stationed in Belgium with NATO's Airborne Early Warning Force, said in a telephone interview last week that he did all he could to help Morel with the grievance. But at some point, he noted, it had to go to higher levels because of George's rank. "I have a responsibility to my subordinates," he told *Maclean's*, "to make sure people are supported in bringing forth difficulties. As a base commander, I would press that to the extent I could—within my hierarchical framework. And that leads to Gen. O'Blenis."

O'Blenis, who left the service three years ago and now works in Toronto for AlliedSignal Aerospace, the world's largest supplier of aerospace components, told *Maclean's* last week that he "vaguely" remembers the incident—but not the outcome of the investigation or the recommendations he would have made before the file was passed on to National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa.

Jackson also said he did not know the outcome of the investigation against George. But he acknowledged there was a large military—and moral—issue in a colonel fraternizing with a married private. "Abuse of power and influence," said Jackson. "Big, big problem. And we're not talking about equal ranks here, we're talking about a significant variance in rank. It is not something I would condone at any time. At the very least, it was extremely bad judgment."



George: concerns that the system too often protects officers

The unwritten rule: rank has its privileges

Allegations about inequities and problems in the military justice system are not new. They came to public attention during the Somalia inquiry, when it became clear that senior officers tried to cover up events surrounding the 1993 beating death of a Somali teenager by members of the Canadian Airborne Regiment. That, in turn, provoked calls to reform the military justice system. Last year, former Supreme Court of Canada chief justice Brian Dickson delivered a report into military justice and military police investigations. The report, requested in January of 1997 by Defence Minister Doug Young, offered 35 recommendations to create a more open and accountable system.

The final report of the Somalia inquiry, tabled June 30, 1997, also questioned the fairness and effectiveness of the military justice system. Among its recommendations were that military judges be civilians "totally independent of the military chain of command," that the director of the military police report to the solicitor general and not the defence minister, and that an independent inspector general be appointed to look into systemic problems with military justice and protect whistleblowers.

Seven months ago, Defence Minister Art Eggleton introduced a bill to amend the National Defence Act that would give military judges and defence lawyers more independence from the chain of command. It would also create a Military Police Complaints Commission to hear complaints against military police—and from military police. At the time, Art Hanger, the Reform party's vocal defence critic, called the changes superficial, adding that they "don't address the issue of independence of the investigative bodies within the military." Others insist that things are changing for the better. Said David Bright, a Halifax lawyer who once served in the navy and now specializes in military law: "They're making some progress—they're trying hard to make changes."

But changes to the system, critics say, will not erase the unwritten rule known as RHP: rank has its privileges. In interviews with *Maclean's*, military police sources complained that the power structure in the Forces often presents barriers to carrying out their duties in practice. A private and an officer are not always equal under the law. "If there is an incident related to drunkenness, for example, we can throw anybody in jail up to sergeant," said one source. "We are not allowed to incarcerate anybody over the rank of warrant officer or officer. We are supposed to put them in open custody."

And while Canadian Forces uniforms fit impeccably, the military is not always so successful at tailoring a punishment to a crime. Last month, at CFB Kingston, there was some questioning of the harshness of a sentence given to an instructor charged with "conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline." Four others, three males and one female, were also charged in the case, which involved numerous incidents of soldiers repeatedly exposing themselves and making lewd comments during a course. The instructor's crime: not putting an end to that behavior. In a summary trial conducted in early June, he lost his teaching position and was demoted from master corporal to private, with his annual salary dropping by fully $10,000—or almost 30 per cent—to $25,000 a year from nearly $35,000.

Conscientious military police officers who proceed with charges against officers often leave themselves open to repercussions. But rank can be a factor even among enlisted men. In 1990, one former

corporal told *Maclean's*, he answered his door at an Ontario base late at night to find the wife of his superior—a sergeant—standing on the steps with her two young children. Visibly shaken, with red marks on her face and neck, the woman, who lived a few doors away, said she didn't know where to turn. He invited her in, put the children to bed in his room and listened to the agitated woman tell her story. Her husband, she said, had come home drunk, lost his temper and started hitting her. So she took her boys and ran for help. "If I was thinking, I would have told her to go home," the corporal says.

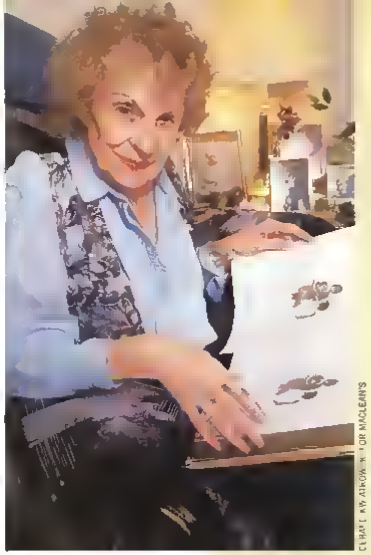
He considered reporting the assault to the Ontario Provincial Police or base military police, but felt obligated to protect his boss. He decided instead, to speak to him privately. "The next morning, he showed up late and hung over," he recalls. "I asked if he knew what he had done. He said it was none of my business and to get out of his office." The corporal, convinced that the assault was too serious to ignore, then went to his platoon commander and wrote out a statement, which the officer signed. "From that point on, my career was finished," says the former soldier, who was a rifle technician. "I was the senior corporal in a shop of four—and now I was targeted with all the crap details."

Several months later, he inquired about the statement—only to learn it had disappeared. About a year later, he filed a harassment grievance against his superior—without mentioning the assault. At one point, he asked a shop mate to speak out as a witness for him. "He said, 'I can't, I have to sit on the fence, it doesn't pay to get involved,'" says the corporal. A senior officer handled the grievance, interviewed the two men and sent his report to the sergeant's supervisor. The officer sided with the sergeant, concluding that there was no harassment. "They said he was teaching me tolerance," the corporal says. "Because he has the rank, he has the power."

Even after the grievance, he says the harassment persisted until he was posted elsewhere in 1993. "I took that as a punishment, too," he says. "I was only three years from retirement." When he did retire, in 1996 at the age of 40 and after 19 years in the Forces, he moved to London, Ont., where he is now studying massage therapy. "I don't think the attitude will change," he says. "It's too ingrained."

For Boyle in Stephenville, such stories are part of a familiar pattern. He looks back on an eventful career. In North Bay, he carried out a major cleanup of the male barracks, getting rid of the beer machines in the halls and eliminating the practice of men bringing women onto the premises. Now, Boyle is refurbishing his house and devoting time to fly-fishing. But he remains firm in his belief that those who "shame the fabric" of the Canadian Forces must be rooted out—and hopes that, by speaking out against the military justice system, he will not be viewed as a traitor by his former colleagues. "They'll say that washing our dirty linen in public will only further tarnish the Forces," Boyle says. "But to not speak out about it makes every one of us part of the problem. We become part of the coverup that has been going on for years."

With SHARON DOYLE DRIEDGER in Toronto and BRENDA BRANSWELL in Montreal



CHRIS ARNOLD/MACLEAN'S

Anderson, 'I thought I'd go to my grave with it'

A WARTIME SECRET FINALLY REVEALED

For the past 53 years Audrey Anderson kept the awful memories to herself, hidden from her four sons, her closest friends—even from her husband, who died in 1984. But the recent allegations of rape in the Canadian Forces have convinced Anderson, 72, that it is time to bare her secret. She wants other women to know that she too was raped on an army base, during the Second World War, and that her efforts to see justice done were futile. Since the end of the war, says Anderson, "I've never told a soul—I thought I'd go to my grave with it. But when I read the stories in *Maclean's* and saw those girls on TV, I wanted them to know that I went through the same thing. I can't believe that nothing has changed."

Anderson (her maiden name) was an 18-year-old Winnipegger in 1944 when she signed up for the Canadian Women's Army Corps. After basic training in Kitchener, Ont., she and about 100 other young women from across Canada were dispatched to Base Borden, 90 km north of Toronto, where she was put to work cooking and cleaning.

About a year after her posting began, Anderson went on a date—her first ever—with a young private she had just met, a man who initially struck her as "handsome, quiet, unassuming." They went to see a musical at the base's movie theatre, but he wanted to leave after the intermission and suggested they go for a walk. As they passed a swimming pool bathhouse, he pulled Anderson inside and threw her down on the wooden plank floor. 'All the time he was ripping my underclothes I yelled, 'No, please no.' The only words he muttered at me were 'Shut up, slut,'" recalls Anderson. After the attack, she says, "He then stood up as it nothing was wrong and said, 'Thank you, ma'am,' and walked out."

In shock, she stumbled back to her quarters, shaking and sobbing hysterically, her uniform bloody, her stockings ripped. A woman in the next cubicle convinced her to go to the medical officer—a woman—who examined her. The doctor told her to see her commanding officer—another woman. She did, and asked for a week's leave to see her father and recover from her injuries. Anderson says she will never forget the response. "She told me not to tell my father, that it would only upset and worry him. She also refused my leave and said, 'I'll expect you on parade in the morning, private.'"

Anderson believes she knows why she was told not to tell her father. "Because he would have raised hell about it," she says. "They were trying to cover it up. They didn't follow through with anything. I was waiting to testify, I was bugging the officers about when there would be a trial. But there never was a trial. He was never charged with rape. He just got shipped overseas." It took a long time, she says, before her life seemed right again. She had nightmares and woke the other women in her quarters with her screams. She lost her appetite and sank into depression. And when the war ended she quietly returned to Winnipeg with a secret she thought she would never reveal.

J.O.



MYSTERY AT GAGETOWN

Insiders say the Forces have covered up a 1987 assault

BY JOHN NICOL

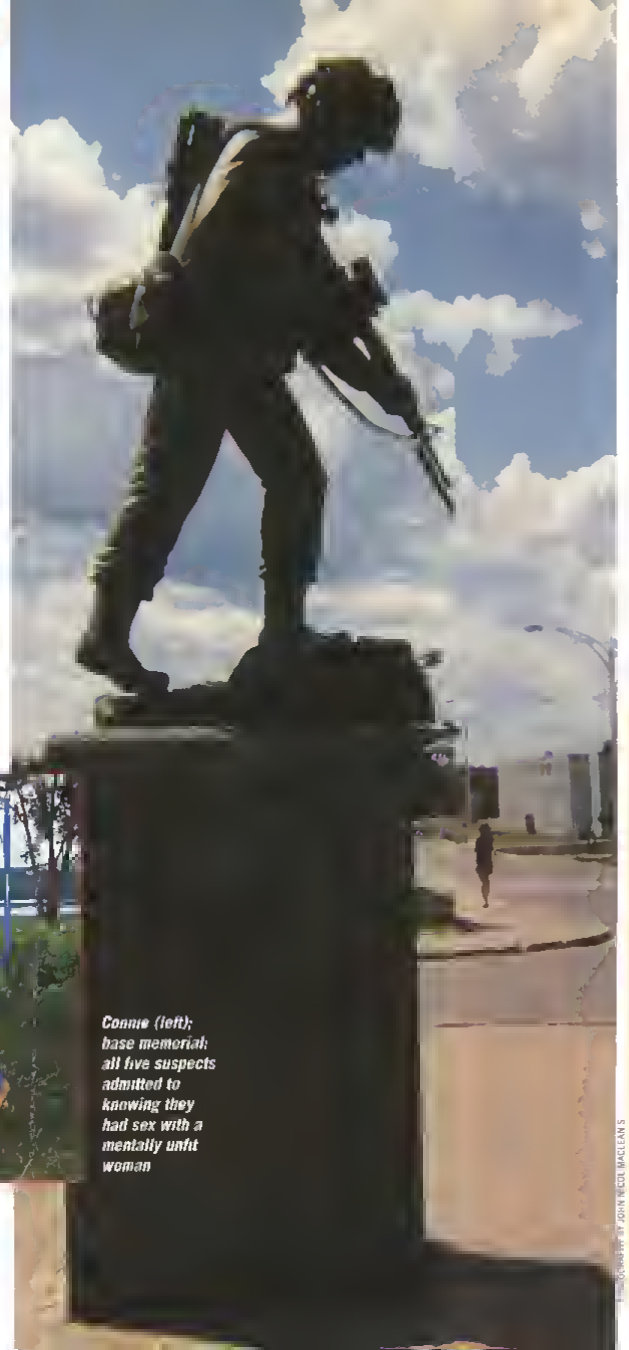
On Oct. 2, 1987, a woman named Connie went to the singles quarters at CFB Gagetown in New Brunswick convinced she was going to become a movie star. Two soldiers in the base bar had persuaded the 23-year-old woman that all she had to do was pose for what they called "Sunshine Girl-like" photos. "They told me to do this pose and that pose—I figure they were legitimate," says Connie, who asked that her surname not be used. "I did some of the poses. Towards the end, I sensed something was wrong."

Over the next four hours, Connie—whom a psychologist earlier that year had described as functioning within the "limits of borderline intelligence"—says she was repeatedly violated, vaginally and orally, by at least five soldiers in the Royal Canadian Regiment. When word of the incident spread, it became the subject of an intense military police investigation that ended with no disciplinary action taken—and with allegations by military police sources that Canadian Forces brass covered it up. Last year, military police launched a second investigation into the case, and now members of the Maritime branch of the National Investigation Service, the country's top military police unit, are contemplating yet another review.

When the June 1 issue of *Maclean's* mentioned that the rape of a mentally handicapped woman by five soldiers at Gagetown had been hushed up, military authorities denied it vehemently. Retired major-general Lewis MacKenzie, the base commander from 1988 to 1990, stepped forward to say that "the Gagetown incident has been examined in depth and appears to be a huge fabrication." Acknowledging that he had no direct knowledge, MacKenzie said that military sources "in low places" had recently informed him that the woman was not mentally handicapped, that she and her common-law husband did not want any charges laid in what amounted to consensual sex, and that a New Brunswick Crown attorney came close to laughing concerned military police out of his office because he thought there was no case. "Maybe nymphomaniac becomes mentally disturbed over 10 years?" MacKenzie told *The Toronto Sun*, explaining how the facts may have been twisted over the years.

When contacted by *Maclean's* last week, MacKenzie stood by his explanations and his sources. "Based on the information they gave me and where they got it, I trust they gave it to me accurately," he said. "I have no reason to doubt them." But a three-week investigation by *Maclean's*, including interviews with Connie, her parents, her husband at the time of the incident and military sources, reveals a story that differs drastically from the account MacKenzie says was given to him.





Connie (left); base memorial: all five suspects admitted to knowing they had sex with a mentally unfit woman

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN NICOL, MACLEAN'S

Connie never got past Grade 6 in rural Nova Scotia. Her learning difficulties prompted her parents to take her for a brain scan at age 9 or 10. She was deemed mentally slow, says her mother, who still lives in Nova Scotia and describes her daughter as "a sweet, kind person who doesn't know there's a big bad world out there." In late 1983, Connie married a man who enlisted in the military the following year. She moved with him to Gagetown in 1985. They had one child who is being raised by grandparents. The marriage ended when Connie was unable to cope during her husband's frequent absences on manoeuvres. She left him—and moved in with another soldier. In 1986, she had a second daughter.

The New Brunswick ministry of health and community services took that child under its care after bruises and lacerations were found on her back, apparently because the baby was carried in a duffel bag in the back of the couple's vehicle. The ministry arranged for a psychological assessment of Connie that concluded she was unfit to mother the child because, in the words of the psychological assessment, she was "significantly handicapped in the intellectual sphere." In some tests, Connie's results "fell in the mentally retarded to borderline range." She also had a "submissive" personality, and was further described in the report as "obedient, easily led, accommodating [and] easily upset by authority."

Now living on welfare at the home of her in-laws in a Quebec village, Connie recently spoke to *Maclean's* for two hours about the events of Oct. 2, 1987. At times her stories were incredible, but at other times she volunteered minute factual details that other sources later confirmed. At some point during the photo session, she said, she was told she had to do sexual acts. "That's when I was saying this is a little far fetched," she said. "That's when I did my struggle to get away." As soldiers filed into an upper room to have their way with her, she said, they forced her head down on them. Her right arm, she said, was later tethered to the bed, and she claimed she had to use blunt scissors to cut herself loose while a soldier was out in the hall bragging about his exploits. She pointed to a scar on her arm where, she said, the scissors she used on her binding slashed her arm.

A month after the incident, military police were called to a base bar named Dundee's to deal with Connie, who was disturbing patrons with apparently wild stories about what had happened to her. Military policeman Al White decided that what she was saying warranted further questioning, and took her back to the base police station. Her story led to a lengthy investigation that turned up the negatives of the photos taken during the incident, and put five soldiers under suspicion of sexual assault—with a victim incapable of true consent.

The sexual assault case was brought to local Crown attorney William Kearney, who himself pleaded guilty to sexual assault charges in 1993 and received a five-year sentence. Now out of jail and retired, he told *Maclean's* he cannot remember the incident, but he objected to the suggestion he would have ridiculed the case. "It looks like they're trying to wish wash it, and they're trying to get the prosecutor in there just to show he didn't think much of it either," Kearney said. "No matter how pathetic she was, it should have, at the very least, gone through a court martial. At the very least. It's not a laughing matter."

One of the soldiers implicated in the incident, and who agreed to speak to *Maclean's* anonymously, said the sex had been consensual, and there had been no coercion or restraining. "Nothing like that," he said. "Yelling,

INCIDENT AT BASE BORDEN

Anne Marie Aikins headed to CFB Borden on June 19 hoping for a productive meeting with military officials. Instead, the executive director of the Barrie and District Rape Crisis Line, who had been invited to the base, walked away from the lunch perturbed—and soon became angry enough to fire off a faxed letter to Defence Minister Art Eggleton the following morning. Aikins took issue with comments she maintains were made by base commander Col. William Reid about allegations of sexual assault in the military. According to Aikins, Reid opined that 80 per cent of the recent *Maclean's* stories about rape in the Canadian Forces are untrue—"though he would quickly add that 20 per cent was too much," Aikins wrote in her complaint. "I was left speechless," she added, "when he began talking about individual women and their circumstances."

Aikins contends that Reid made disparaging, personal comments about Ann Margaret Dickey, an Oromocto, N.B., woman who recently went public with her allegations that she was repeatedly raped as a military recruit at CFB St-Jean, Que. (Dickey was not featured in the *Maclean's* stories.) And she says he also spoke dismissively of Jamie Monkman, whose story of sexual assault was featured in the May 25 issue of *Maclean's*. (The soldier charged in Monkman's case entered into a peace bond, paying $500 and agreed to stay away from her for nine months.) "I'm not shocked," Monkman said last week. "I knew that they would attack people in the article." But Aikins was taken aback by the incident. "I was really uncomfortable and absolutely dismayed that he would tell me this stuff," she told *Maclean's*.

Her letter did not languish in a stack of faxes. Gen. Maurice Baril, head of the Canadian Forces, called her the next day after Eggleton asked that it be looked into immediately. Brig.-Gen. Kenneth Hague, the commandant at the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ont., then met with Aikins to clarify points in her letter. Reid was initially suspended by Lt.-Gen. Romeo Dallaire—who is in charge of personnel matters and oversees Borden—although he had returned to work last week. A military spokeswoman at CFB Borden said that Reid was declining interviews because the investigation was still under way.

Dallaire also would not comment until he wraps up discussions with Reid and Aikins this week. Aikins, meanwhile, worries that, in spite of Baril's May 19 call for military personnel to report incidents of abuse, women will be more reluctant to talk to investigators if they feel they will not be believed—or that information may be leaked. She went to the June 19 meeting, she says, hoping that Borden officials were taking the issue of sexual misconduct seriously. Instead, she now concludes, "they are still minimizing, rationalizing—and denying that there is a problem."

BRENDA BRANSWELL

screaming—there was none." He acknowledges taking some of the photos, although he says he did not have sex with Connie. "Nobody thought they were doing anything wrong," he said. "A respected police officer was there. That stuff happened almost every weekend. Does that mean all those women were mentally deficient, too? It was a party gang bang. Universities do it all the time and nothing happens. The military does it and we get hammered."

In fact, according to the original military police report, the five soldiers all admitted to knowing they had sex with a mentally unfit woman. But none of them were ever prosecuted, and some were soon posted to other bases (a common way of handling such cases, according to police sources). Among them was a military policeman who was promoted from master corporal to sergeant and sent to Halifax. Now working in the security field in Nova Scotia, he admits to being in the singles quarters that day, but denies having sex with Connie. As for his promotion, he said it was already in the works.

'Nobody thought they were doing anything wrong'

Col. Dennis O'Brien, who at the time was commanding officer of the five suspects, denies that any deliberate attempt was made to scatter the soldiers. He says he has a vague memory of the details, but did not actively get involved in the case. He adds that the military policeman in his regiment was "very highly rated that year," and despite having his badge temporarily suspended because of the incident, deserved his promotion in a 1988 merit review.

Retired brigadier-general Al Geddry, who was base commander on Oct. 2, 1987, and during the first seven months of the investigation, says he has no knowledge of any aspect of the case. However, he added that in those days the military had a "wash-your-dirty laundry-in-the-family" attitude. "That's how the military world was," he said in an interview. "We can see now that wasn't a terribly good attitude to take. That is why many times a lot of this stuff was going on but the bosses didn't hear too much about it because subordinates wanted less hoo-ha. Therefore, we ended up with a lot of cover-ups right up until the recent past."

To the chagrin of investigators, the initial inquiry elicited no action from commanding officers. The second was launched in 1997—sparked by letters from three concerned soldiers to then Defence Minister Doug Young, contending that the first investigation was ignored. "There's a lot of cover-ups when it comes to sexual offences down here," says one of the Gagetown insiders who wrote Young, and who agreed to speak to *Maclean's* on condition of anonymity. He claims that the original investigators were directed to go to the local Crown attorney—not to have charges laid, but to have civilian jurisdiction waived. "Once it went back to the military, it went the way everybody else wanted it to go," he says, "which was to bury it. The only way we'll find out the truth about Gagetown is if someone holds an inquiry."

Connie, meanwhile, left Gagetown for CFB Petawawa with her second husband in 1990. When that marriage also ended in divorce three years later, she began a relationship with another soldier until he physically abused her. Now 34, she recently remarried, this time to a civilian. Connie says she doesn't know what happened to the investigation. "All I heard was an anonymous person put an end to it." Both Connie and her husband at the time of the incident, who now lives in British Columbia, say they never requested that the case not be pursued. When she now looks back on her time in Gagetown, Connie describes it as emotionally "distraughting." She says she is glad to be away from the military—and the events that transpired on Oct. 2, 1987. □



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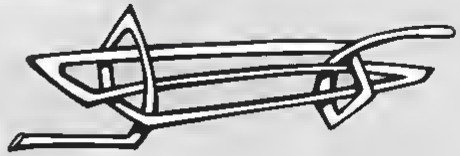


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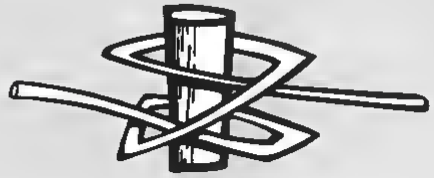
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Canada's culture cash



Copps (middle): fears that new trade rules may threaten homegrown arts

BY JOHN GEDDES

On the afternoon before Canada Day, CBC president Perrin Beatty sat in his Ottawa office straining his voice to be heard over *Gettin' Jiggy Wit It*, the infectious hit song by U.S. movie star and hip-hop recording artist Will Smith. The beat pulsating from Beatty's desktop computer was blasted out over the Internet by Radio VBC in Vladivostok. He makes a habit of checking out the growing number of these so-called Webcasts from radio stations around the world—including the CBC's own. An American song, on a Russian station, over a medium beyond the reach of Canadian regulators—what better background music for Beatty's musing on how technology is fast rendering old cultural protection policies obsolete? He contends that even a public broadcaster must now rely on its ability to succeed in the marketplace if it is to survive and thrive. "If anybody wants to build an electronic wall around Canada," he said, "there is no wall high enough or thick enough that it can't be leapt by a satellite or pierced by a fibre-optics cable."

As Beatty spoke, Canadian Heritage Minister Sheila Copps was across town wrapping up two days of meetings on much the same theme with 20 culture ministers, representing countries from Brazil to Britain. Their common denominator: shared misgivings about the seductive onslaught of U.S. movies, television and music. No American politician was invited to attend. The ministers pledged to form a permanent network to try to prevent their national cultures from being steamrolled by global trade and economic forces. Copps told *Maclean's* that she hopes the summit sowed the seeds for cultural institutions that will someday grow to parallel the powerful bodies, such as the World Trade Organization, that hold sway over global commerce. "Globalization is a fact of life," she said. "But it has come on us so rapidly that on the cultural side we don't have any international instruments to deal with it."

Canadian entertainment entrepreneurs are not waiting for the new global culture club to ensure their survival. With a series of key federal policy changes on film, TV and magazines in the works, many are urging Ottawa to find ways to inject new commercial incentives into traditionally sheltered cultural sectors. While the key decisions are still to be made, at least some federal policy makers appear to be listening. "They're looking for a way to nurture culture while avoiding dependence on government," says Toronto film consultant Dan Johnson. Even the CBC is taking a market-oriented approach, such as looking to launch a specialty TV channel with independent film producer Atlantis, rather than pleading for more taxpayers' money. "We're going to have to make do with what we have," Beatty said, "and what we can generate in the marketplace."

If Copps's culture summit showed that she is thinking globally, the upcoming policy decisions will test her ability to act domestically. She will play a key role in overhauling the rules that largely dictate the homegrown choices Canadians see in the TV listings, on the marquees of movie theatres and on magazine racks. A WTO ruling last year forced Ottawa's hand on magazine policy. But when it comes to film and TV, the shift is being driven largely by a growing consensus that Canadian products need more consumer appeal.

Nowhere is the emerging, more market-oriented mind-set more apparent than in the film industry. Copps launched consultations on reforming federal film policy five months ago. Instead of turning into a clamor for more taxpayers' money, participants say the discussions are concentrated on how to boost the popular appeal of Canadian films. In the past, the creators of Canadian movies tended to blame distributors and theatre chains for the failure to lure large audiences. But according to Allan King, president of the Directors Guild of Canada, that grumble is heard less often and carries less weight these days. "My experience has been extremely good with any exhibitor or distributor I have ever worked with," the veteran director of films like *Who Has Seen the Wind* says.

If those who control the screens are not to blame, why do so few Canadian films score in the marketplace? Last year's *The Sweet Hereafter* by Toronto director Atom Egoyan was the first Canadian feature film to turn a profit since Denys Arcand's *The Decline of the American Empire* in 1986. Both were challenging films that managed to break through to wider audiences—brilliant exceptions to the dismal rule. Industry observers say most Canadian movies are made with budgets for both production and promotion that are too skimpy. "A film with a particularly unusual subject and treatment can sometimes overcome minimal budgeting," King says, "but you can't consistently do it."



Egoyan: his was the first Canadian feature film to make money since 1986

Commercialism may soon drive federal policy

To generate more regular successes, King says, mainstream Canadian movies need to be made with budgets of $5 million to $10 million—sufficient to give the finished product the polish expected by moviegoers used to slick Hollywood fare. In a controversial recommendation to Copps, the directors guild calls for a tax to be paid by film distributors on video rentals and theatrical releases, with the proceeds earmarked for a new $100-million feature film fund. Government sources, however, say the chances of such a tax gaining support from the powerful finance department are slim.

A proposal with a better chance of gaining government support is to reward film-makers who score at the box office—effectively punishing those who bomb by making it harder for them to get money. That approach is favored by King's guild, the provincial film agencies and the theatre owners' lobby group. "It's not enough to just be giving out money," contends Michael Herman, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Associations of Canada. "Those who show they have the capacity [to succeed] are the ones who should continue to be able to draw on that money." As well, Herman calls for Telefilm Canada, the federal film financing agency, to tilt its funding towards movies targeted for wide release, by separating funding for commercial movies from the money available for more art-house projects.

The debate swirling around Canadian film is about to be extended to television. The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission plans, subject to cabinet approval, to overhaul Canadian content rules after hearings this fall. Private broadcasters are fighting hard to avoid a repeat of last winter's controversial CRTC decision to boost the required Canadian music content on radio to 35 per cent from 30 per cent. They are demanding policies that reward boosting the viewership for Canadian shows—not only hours of Canadian programming. CRTC chairwoman Françoise Bertrand hinted in an interview with *Maclean's* that she is open to such an approach. "Let's say someone does some kind of original or ingenious promotion of Canadian programs," Bertrand said. "Shouldn't that get some recognition at the level of Canadian-content points?"

Canadian TV programs tend to fare better in the marketplace than Canadian films. But Beatty laments that domestic programs have failed—despite substantial government spending and strict Canadian content rules—to grab more audience share over the decades. In 1960, Canadians watched Canadian shows 32 per cent of the time. Last year, the Canadian share was 34 per cent. In the future, with more U.S. channels, and direct-to-home satellite services, Beatty suggests that just holding that traditional level will be a challenge. "The struggle," he says, "is to make sure Canadians don't become strangers in their own land."

Looming behind the whole rethinking of cultural policy is a fear that international trade rules will gradually tear down protection for arts and entertainment. Already, Canada faces a European Union challenge to federal rules that kept Dutch entertainment giant PolyGram from setting up a full-scale film distribution arm in Canada. (Montreal-based Seagram Co. Ltd.'s recent takeover of PolyGram may squelch that dispute.) And last year, a WTO panel ruled that Canadian tax advantages and postal subsidies for domestic magazines, including *Maclean's*, discriminated against U.S. publications. Copps said she plans to deliver a workable new policy to cabinet late this month. She has ruled out a stiff tax levy on Canadian firms that advertise in foreign magazines. Beyond that, she refuses to outline what sort of package is in the works—citing the need to keep Washington in the dark for as long as possible.

Copps's move on magazines will be closely watched by the left flank of the government caucus. Liberal MPs who cling to the economic nationalism that was the hallmark of their party through the 1970s and 1980s see culture as one of the few policy areas where they need not bow to the free-market bent that has defined Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's regime. "For sure, let's have a liberalized economy," says Quebec MP Clifford Lincoln, chairman of the House of Commons heritage committee. "At the same time, let's preserve a cultural identity—a value system—in relation to a huge U.S. entertainment industry."

Lincoln's committee is working on an ambitious study of the whole spectrum of cultural policies. By the time that report is delivered to Copps, likely late this year, her new policies on magazines and films should be in place and the CRTC's hearings may well have sparked a lively debate about Canadian TV. With the new emphasis on making commercial success a core aim of cultural protection, the fall political season stands to put a fresh spin on familiar questions about preserving Canada's identity. □



Bell lashing out at prosecutors: the latest wrenching chapter in the six-year saga

A case abandoned

Nova Scotia stays charges in the Westray disaster

As other Canadians prepared last week to celebrate the country's 131st birthday, families of the 26 men who died in the May, 1992, Westray mine explosion girded themselves for a more sombre undertaking. During the afternoon of June 30, they had been contacted by the Nova Scotia public prosecutions service and informed that long-standing criminal charges against two former Westray managers, Gerald Phillips and Roger Parry, had just been stayed. They were then invited to a 6 p.m. private meeting with Crown attorneys at the Plymouth, N.S., fire hall—the very spot where many of them had spent an agonizing week six years ago, waiting to hear the fate of loved ones trapped in the exploded mine shaft. Following a stormy 45-minute session, the family members trooped over to a nearby news conference. There, lead Crown attorney Marc Chisholm told reporters that, five years after charges were first laid, there was simply not enough evidence to proceed to trial. It all proved too much for Pearl Bell, whose son Larry, died in the explosion. "My son burned down there," a tearful Bell shouted at the prosecutors. "And you let them get away with it. How can you just sit there?"

Last week's dramatic announcement marked the latest wrenching chapter in the Westray saga. Allen Martin, whose brother, Glenn, died at Westray, describes the years of watching the authorities try—and fail—to hold anyone to account for the death of 26 miners as "emotional torture." It began just five months after the explosion when the Nova Scotia department of labor laid 52 non-criminal charges of unsafe practices against Westray's owner, Curragh Inc., and four officials. By March, 1993, those charges had been dropped—ostensibly to protect the integrity of an ongoing criminal investigation. The following month, the RCMP laid charges of manslaughter and criminal negligence causing death against Phillips and Parry. Their trial began in February, 1995, but was stayed four months later on the grounds that the prosecution had failed to disclose key evidence to the defence. That ruling was twice appealed, and in March, 1997, the Supreme Court of Canada ordered a new trial for Phillips and Parry.

As the legal case ground on, a public inquiry proved another source of frustration for relatives. The inquiry heard from company officials, provincial mine inspectors and many of the politicians who had lobbied so hard to establish Westray in depressed Pictou County, 150 km northeast of Halifax. Again and again, the witnesses denied responsibility, blamed others, or simply failed to recollect what they had said or done with regard to the mine. In the end, though, the Westray families were heartened last December by Nova Scotia Supreme Court Justice Peter Richard's hard-hitting final report. Richard concluded that the initial source of the blast was sparks struck by a mining machine that ignited a cloud of methane—a gas that seeps naturally from coal. Those sparks would have faded harmlessly, he said, if Westray officials had not flouted provincial safety standards by, among other things, allowing coal dust to accumulate. Richard blamed the tragedy on "incompetence, apathy, cynicism, stupidity and neglect."

But the Crown's reassessment of its own criminal case, which included consulting some of the experts who testified at the inquiry, proved more equivocal. Chisholm said the experts could not agree on several key issues, including the exact cause of the explosion. As a result, he adds, there was no reasonable chance of securing a conviction. But some legal observers found the timing of the Crown's decision curious. "In the normal course of events, this kind of judgment would be made far earlier in the case," says Dalhousie law professor Archie Kaiser.

After so many setbacks, the Westray families feel embittered. "You fight for six years, you lose and then you lose again," says Martin. "Where is the justice?"

BRIAN BERGMAN *in Halifax*

The pursuit of Nancy Morrison

The situation was rife with irony. Just two days after Nova Scotia stayed criminal charges against two former Westray mine managers—a decision that drew much public ire—provincial Justice Minister Jim Smith gave prosecutors the green light to pursue a manslaughter conviction against Dr. Nancy Morrison, a Halifax respirologist who received massive public support after being charged in connection with the death of a terminally ill cancer patient. The director of prosecutions, Martin Herschorn, knew the optics were bad. "Crown attorneys," he told reporters, "must make decisions, not based on public opinion, but upon the assessment of the available evidence."

In February, provincial court Judge Hughes Randall threw out a first-degree murder charge against Morrison, saying there was not enough evidence to convict her. When the Crown announced it would appeal, Morrison's lawyer, Joel Pink, asked Smith to drop the case in what he called "the public interest." But after consulting legal and ethical experts, Smith refused, saying the public interest was best served by letting the courts decide. Pink said neither he nor his client were surprised by the decision. "You always hope for the best," he said, "but you always expect disappointment."

Bruce Wallace



Axworthy's 'soft power'

The federal Liberals tend to regard any intrusion of bold new ideas on their steady-as-she-goes governing style with the sort of alarm a Paris café owner feels towards a mob of descending English soccer hooligans just before closing. They desperately bury their noses in housekeeping details, avoiding eye contact or anything else that might provoke trouble. In this sleepy political culture, Lloyd Axworthy can hardly help but stand out. The energetic foreign minister is constantly scheming to get the world to take notice of Canada—and, tangentially, Lloyd Axworthy. No issue is too small to be pronounced upon. In previous Canadian governments, Axworthy would have been just one more busybody minister in this one he is perilously close to the only sign of life.

His leading role in the campaign for a global anti-land-mine treaty that bears Ottawa's name brought a dash of glory to the Liberals. But Axworthy also hears grumbling from more somnolent colleagues, who tsk, tsk disapprovingly as he barges from one issue to the next, involving Canada in every cause from ending child labor and the use of child soldiers, to stopping the spread of small arms and creating an international criminal court. The street-smart Axworthy knows he is vulnerable to charges of being a political dilettante who goes wherever the TV lights are. So, to glue all his disparate interests into some form of coherent plan, he travelled to Norway last May to sign a partnership agreement with the Norwegian government. Called the Lysoen Declaration after the tiny island where it was negotiated, the deal pledges Canada and Norway to act together on nine different humanitarian issues.

Axworthy sees this in grander terms than a simple two-country deal, of course. His idea is to broaden the partnership to other like-minded countries such as Ireland, Switzerland and South Africa, a broad coalition to push a common humanitarian agenda. Axworthy even wants to call this group the H-8, to contrast with what he sees as an outmoded G-7 (and which horrifies his own officials, who are trying to talk him out of the name). Axworthy returned from this year's G-7 summit in England muttering about the group's ineffective response to India's nuclear threat and the disdainful treatment accorded Canada by France, which retains disproportionate international power by virtue of its permanent UN Security Council seat. A new coalition would give Canada greater international clout, he argues, because the bloc could forcefully push the humanitarian values which Canadians hold dear.

This is the so-called soft-power approach to international relations: the non-aggressive promotion of attractive values (like banning land mines), which has become Axworthy's mantra and the cornerstone of Ottawa's foreign policy. The term was coined by Joseph Nye, the highly respected dean of Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, who says organizing a soft power bloc "makes a lot of sense as a strategy for Canada." Although Axworthy and Nye have never exchanged more than small talk, the minister is a devotee of Nye's writings on the importance of soft power in the information age (and which have become required reading for Foreign Affairs officials).

> **Canada's foreign minister aims to establish a humanitarian bloc of like-minded nations**

But the guru has some caveats for the follower. In an interview with *Maclean's*, Nye warned that Axworthy should guard against any new bloc becoming another forum for the growing world sport of Washington bashing. Many governments chafe at a global system under the thumb of a solo superpower; they just haven't figured out how to get things done without it. "Sticking a finger in the American eye might make you feel self-righteous," says Nye. "But you won't have changed the world." Soft power is growing in influence, he argues, but it has not replaced the traditional hard power of military and economic might.

Take Sierra Leone, for example: a failing West African state where a nasty band of rebels had toppled a civilian government trying to rebuild. It took a Nigerian-led military force (backed by a British-sponsored weapons-supply mission and American military "advice") to chase out the rebels last winter and restore a semblance of order. Soft power is fine. But creating the conditions for people to live safely is sometimes only possible with an old-fashioned whacking of the bad guys.

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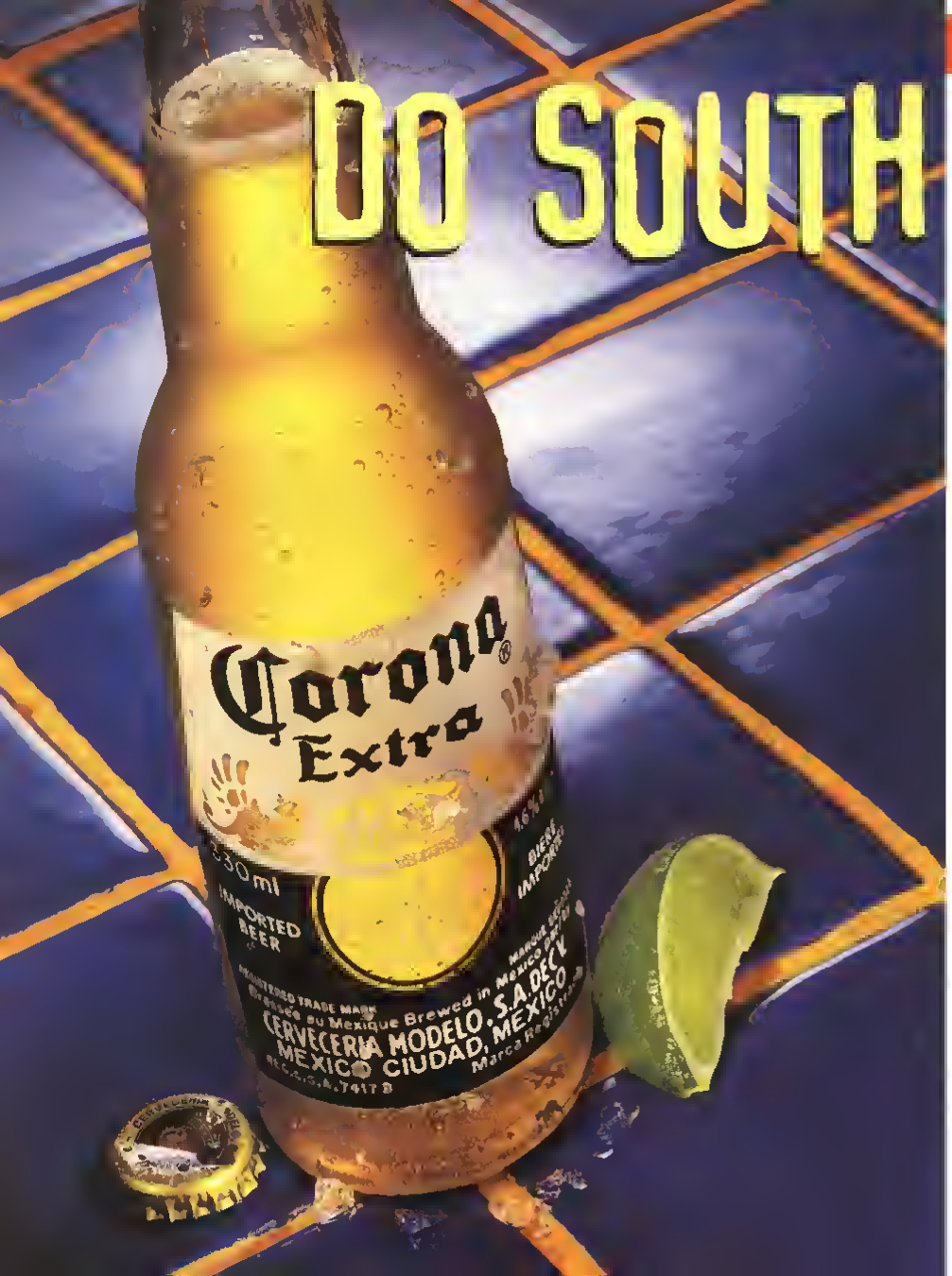
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CARVING UP SALMON

Federal Fisheries Minister David Anderson announced a one-year deal with Washington state designed to protect sockeye salmon that migrate up the Fraser River. Anderson said the state agreed to limit its catch to about 1.2 million sockeye, or 25 per cent of the year's total haul. B.C. Premier Glen Clark called the deal "an unbelievable sellout of Canadian interests."

CHARGES DROPPED

The National Investigation Service, an arm of the military police, decided not to lay charges against Maj.-Gen. Wendy Clay in a case involving allegations of obstructing justice. The service said there was not enough evidence to support claims that Clay had criminal intentions when she destroyed a letter from the estranged wife of one of her subordinates. Clay was the Forces' highest-ranking woman before retiring in June.

UNITED STAND

In a landmark decision last month, the B.C. Supreme Court ordered the federal government and the United Church of Canada to compensate men who were abused as children at a church-run native residential school on Vancouver Island. Now, the United Church says it will appeal. Moderator Bill Phipps says the church does not deny the assaults by a dormitory supervisor, but questions "what is our true liability."

SURVIVING THE VOTE

Nova Scotia's Liberal government, with only 19 of the legislature's 52 seats, survived a test of its fragile minority when Tories voted in favor of its first budget. Conservative Leader John Hamm ensured the victory by persuading 13 of his 14 caucus members to back the Liberals, giving them a vote of confidence over the NDP.

NO GULF WAR SYNDROME

The department of national defence said that a health study of most Canadian veterans from the 1991 Persian Gulf War shows no physical basis for Gulf War syndrome. The study did find that the veterans suffered more illnesses than the general population, but attributed that to stress. Some veterans' advocates blame biological or chemical weapons for the many symptoms attributed to the syndrome.



RYAN REMIORZ/CANAPRESS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: **Canadians celebrated the country's 131st birthday, enjoying concerts, fireworks and other festivities. In Montreal, the city hosted its annual parade, which included a giant birthday cake; in Vancouver, 500 people even attended a Canada Day pot party. And in Ottawa, Gov. Gen. Roméo LeBlanc told the crowd that "throughout our history the distances of this land have set us apart. But its challenges have brought us together."**

Investigating a boy's suicide

Last December, Kenneth AuYeung, 17, committed suicide by jumping off a bridge hours after off-duty policeman Christopher Downer interrogated him and five other boys at St. Michael's Choir School in Toronto. The school had called in Downer to find out who was responsible for a yearbook prank in which text had been altered to suggest a link between choir director Harry Hodson and a sex scandal at Maple Leaf Gardens. Last week, in chilling testimony at a coroner's inquest into AuYeung's death, his mother, Catherine, said that she believes her son would be alive today had he been allowed to phone her after the meeting. "It pulled the rug out from under him," she said. "He was cut off from his parents [and was like] a trapped animal."

Some parents have expressed outrage that the interrogation was conducted without any notification to the boys' homes. Principal John Ryall testified that while the students were not questioned by "burly cops," Downer was "tough" and "repeatedly asked the boys to own up." According to Toronto Catholic School Board superintendent Michael O'Flanagan, board policy requires parental consent before outsiders question a student. But O'Flanagan said the St. Michael's situation was exceptional, and as such that policy was not applicable.

The balcony rapist

Judge Jean MacFarland of the Ontario Court's general division ruled that Toronto police were negligent in 1986 for not warning women that there was a serial rapist in their downtown neighborhood, and awarded a rape victim, known only as Jane Doe, $220,000 in damages. "They adopted the policy not to warn her because of a stereotypical discriminatory belief that as a woman she and others like her would become hysterical and panic and scare off an attacker," the judge wrote. Doe launched her suit in 1987. Paul Callow, known as the balcony rapist for his method of entry to victims' apartments, later pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting Doe and four other women. He was sentenced to 20 years in jail.

Hong Kong's dreams



RICK WILKING/REUTERS

One year later, the big worry is money, not politics

Somehow, Bill Clinton and Hong Kong seemed really ready for each other. The U.S. President had just completed eight gruelling days travelling around mainland China, and he arrived in the former British colony looking weary. Hong Kong, meanwhile, had just marked its first anniversary as a special administrative region of China without much hoopla—not because of political problems, but due to tough economic times. So when Clinton suddenly decided to take an unscheduled walk on the wild side in Hong Kong's upmarket bar district of Lan Kwai Fong, everybody seemed ready for an excuse to party. As he strolled down the steep steps of Pedder Street, pressing the flesh with cheering crowds, cries of "We love you, Bill" greeted him. When he paused at a flower stall, salesgirl Anita Wu presented him with a white "sampan rose" for his buttonhole. "What a moment!" she said afterward. Office worker Daisy Chan, 28, was instantly smitten. "I'd vote for him anytime," she said. "He's so handsome."

For Clinton, the moment was a literal breath of fresh air. "He was fed up staying in his hotel room and wanted to get out and meet the people," an aide told *Maclean's*. But it also served to underscore how free-wheeling a place Hong Kong remains a year after Britain handed it back to China—the kind of place, in fact, that Clinton clearly would like the mainland to become. During his tour of China, the first by a U.S. president since the bloody 1989 crackdown on demonstrators in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, Clinton scored some remarkable successes in speaking directly to the Chinese people about democracy and human rights. At a news conference broadcast live, he told President Jiang Zemin that the use of force at Tiananmen was "wrong." In a televised session with students at Beijing University, he said China needed more individual freedom before it could achieve its goal of a prosperous and stable society. He attended a service in Beijing at China's largest Protestant Church and spoke to callers on an open-line radio show in Shanghai. In a nationally broadcast interview, he called such "open, sweeping communication" the most gratifying part of his trip. Chinese authorities, however, did not let down their guard: at least seven dissidents were arrested in connection with his visit and only released after Clinton flew to Hong Kong, landing at a gleaming new airport that formally begins operations this week.

Once in Hong Kong, Clinton found it necessary only to make a perfunctory reference to recent legislative election results as "a mandate for more democracy." Far from the dire predictions of Beijing interfering with Hong Kong's promised "high degree of autonomy," the enclave's big worry has turned out to be the unexpected downturn in the economy brought on by Asia's financial crisis.

Addressing an anniversary celebration attended by Jiang, Hong Kong chief executive Tung Chee-hwa called for "unprecedented courage" to overcome the difficulties ahead. Among his listeners were ranks of People's Liberation Army officers, their first high-profile appearance since their ominous midnight entrance into Hong Kong on June 30, 1997. Despite his brave words and Jiang's pledge to help maintain local prosperity, Tung can hardly be a happy man. He is increasingly criticized for lack of leadership, and in a recent poll 43 per cent of respondents preferred the rule of the last British governor, Chris Patten, while only 14 per cent favored that of Beijing's hand-picked chief executive.

Outwardly, little has changed in Hong Kong since Patten sailed away with Prince Charles on the royal yacht Britannia. The Noonday Gun, celebrated by Noel Coward in his 1930 song *Mad Dogs and Englishmen*, still blasts off daily, and Queen Victoria's statue continues to preside over the park named after her. On June 4, as in past years, a candle-lit vigil was held in the park to honor the victims of Tiananmen. The sidewalks of Central, the business district where the main street is still named Queen's Road, are thronged with dark-suited bankers, mini-skirted office workers and people who function as walking advertisements for Armani and Versace. Money, more than ever, is the main preoccupation.

Even China's fiercest critics admit that civil liberties have not been much affected. The media remains unfettered and politicians ungagged. Dire predictions of an avalanche of desperate humanity sweeping across the border have proved unfounded. In fact, tougher controls on both sides have reduced the number of illegal immigrants slipping into Hong Kong.

Under the slogan "One country, two systems," one of the world's most ruthless Communist regimes has swallowed the supreme example of laissez-faire capitalism with an amazing lack of friction. In the view of Terence F. Thomas, managing director of Fortis Investments, "Hong Kong has simply changed from being a British colony to a Chinese colony. There is not significantly more or less freedom than under the British. Everything Beijing has said it was going to do it has done."



POOL/AFP

Clinton strolls; Jiang (glasses) with Tung. the Canadians are staying

But the economy is another story. The repercussions of Asia's crisis—including devalued currencies, cancelled projects and a tourism slump—hit Hong Kong hard. Determined to maintain the Hong Kong dollar's 15-year-old peg to the U.S. dollar, officials have defended it with high interest rates, which have sucked cash out of shares. The stock market has plunged from a high of 16,000 points last August to under 9,000 last week. Punters like 32-year-old barman Victor Chan are devastated. "A fortune teller told me my name was unlucky so I changed it to Victor, after the son of Li Ka-shing, and invested my life savings," he says. "Now, I'm broke."

Billionaire tycoon Li Ka-shing has little to smile about either. The property bubble has burst. Prices have plummeted by up to 50 per cent in less than a year. Hotels, restaurants, stores, finance companies and realtors are cutting staff, with Cathay Pacific Airways alone shedding more than 1,800. June figures reveal unemployment at 4.2 per cent, the highest in 15 years.

The slump in Hong Kong comes at a time when the economy in much of Canada is booming—the reverse of the early 1990s when Hong Kong immigration to Canada was at its height. Yet Hong Kong's Canadian passport-holders—150,000 at the last estimate, of whom 90 per cent are of Chinese origin—show little inclination to leave. "People want to stay, despite the economic situation," says Olivia Lee, 32, president of the 3,000-member Chinese Canadian Association. "Most people still have their jobs and they still believe it will be better here than in Canada because of the taxation over there." (In contrast to Canada's panoply of income, sales and capital gains taxes, Hong Kong levies only an income tax. Maximum rate: 15 per cent.)

Business, in fact, is brisker than ever for Lee, a lawyer specializing in corporate affairs who studied and worked in Canada between 1982 and 1992. Many of her wealthier clients have returned to Hong Kong with their families, she says, because of Canada's new requirement to declare foreign assets. "The general feeling is that the downturn may only last one or two years and that down the road things will improve," says Lee.

That outlook is widely shared by local Canadians. Originally from North Vancouver, David Armitage, 41, runs a software business and is hanging in. "The present situation is a dose of reality," he says, noting that many businesses were formerly making profits from real estate side ventures instead of their core businesses. "But Hong Kong adapts well," Armitage says. "I'm very bullish. The situation is completely different to that in every other part of Asia, but it is being tarred with the same brush." Neil Johnston, principal of Hong Kong's Canadian International School, notes that while Hong Kong's property market has fallen, so has the one in Vancouver, where many Hong Kong people settle. "I've not seen any negative effect from the downturn," he says. "We have 625 pupils, more than half with Canadian citizenship. We'll have 700 by September, and in December we're moving into new premises."

For all the long-term bullishness, however, many Hong Kong people have demanded government action for the present. Tardily in many eyes, Tung recently introduced an $8-billion rescue package. Its inclusion of a freeze on government land sales to stabilize prices—a crucial element in the economy—sparked criticism that he had bowed to pressure from his old cronies, the big property developers, at the expense of cash-strapped home-buyers. His promise of 85,000 new homes a year looks increasingly out of reach. The rescue package may ease the pain, says economist Guonan Ma, of Salomon Smith Barney, but will not change the trend. "Hong Kong benefited from the boom, now it's suffering and there's no escape," he says. "There's no free lunch."

Nobody doubts the integrity of Tung, a 61-year-old workaholic shipping tycoon, but his lack of political skills shows. Last week, he gained a formal opposition when the newly elected legislative council was sworn in. Despite a highly complex electoral process, a record 1.5 million of Hong Kong's 6.3 million people voted in May elections to replace a rubber-stamp provisional council. Only 20 seats out of 60 were directly elected, ensuring a majority for pro-Beijing factions, but pro-democracy candidates did well. They cannot initiate legislation of any importance in the executive-led government, but they can block laws and funding. "The people voted overwhelmingly against the lapdogs in favor of the watchdogs," says

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Three-time Export 'A' Skins Game winner Fred Couples (left) vies for a fourth win with some strong competition from 1995 British Open champion John Daly (right).



BY JOHN GORDON

PEI is for Couples.



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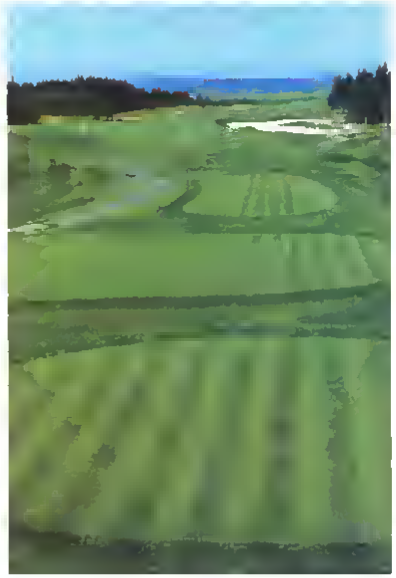
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Golf Digest recently named The Links at Crowbush Cove one of the 10 Best Public Courses in North America—the only Canadian course cited in the Top 10 of the 5,300 places to play worldwide as rated by the magazine's subscribers.

Crowbush is a unique blend of traditional golf course design and modern construction with state-of-the-art environmental preservation techniques. This magnificent seaside layout is built on PEI's famous red clay soil and winds around sensitive coastal dunes and wetlands. The 6,900-yard, par 72 course features lush bentgrass fairways, tees and undulating greens and high-contrast white sand bunkers.

Despite the name, The Links at Crowbush Cove is actually a combination of three styles: the opening holes meander through thick stands of native spruce, then there are the wetland holes and, of course, the dunes or true links holes. The combination of water, rolling fairways, strategic bunkering and well-guarded greens makes this a golf course which requires every club in the bag. Narrow entrances to elevated greens reward target golf and, as at any seaside course, wind is a most significant factor.

Crowbush was named the Best New Golf Course in Canada by *Golf Digest* in 1994, and in 1997 played host to the Canadian Amateur Championship.

No one knows the Links at Crowbush Cove like Jack Kane. Kane, the course's general manager, says the first skin might be won on the par-4 second hole. "That's a 335-yarder that Daly might try to drive, although it's through a tight chute. Another one might be at No. 9, which is 370 yards, but you can cut a lot of that off by going over the bunkers." He points out that "at least two of the par-5s (Nos. 3 and 14) are legitimate birdie holes." But length is just part of the equation. Course architect Thomas McBroom has made the greens quick and quirky, placing pressure not only on the players' putting ability, but also on their ball striking. (Kane knows a bit about the game. After all, he is the father of sophomore LPGA star Lorie Kane.)

Golf in P.E.I.

While the Links at Crowbush Cove may hold centre stage during the Export 'A' Skins Game, it is just one of many outstanding golf courses on Prince Edward Island. Until Crowbush's arrival on the scene in 1994, the Mill River and Brudenell courses were considered the mainstays of the Island's golf scene, with Belvedere, Green Gables and others not far behind.

At Brudenell, water comes into play on half the 18 holes and the diabolical "Brudenell Breeze" sweeps in off the Atlantic and up the river each morning around 10 and then departs without warning about four in the afternoon—timed perfectly to wreak havoc at peak golfing times. The course, designed by Canadian Robbie Robinson and located in a 1,400-acre provincial park, is a treat to play, but be wary of the par-3 16th hole, at 225 yards, it has been the turning point of many competitions, including the Canadian Tour's Atlantic Classic and the Canadian Mid-Amateur Championship.

Mill River, long touted as the toughest track on the island, has benefited from costly course renovations. Its previous blind shots could be unfair to first-timers and anyone playing from the wrong tees is in for a long day. Belvedere, the oldest course on the island, has also gone through a million-dollar upgrade, but remains a dignified and fair challenge. The only private course on PEI, Belvedere allows visitors to play at restricted times. It is worth the effort.

Green Gables was designed 60 years ago by renowned Canadian Stanley Thompson, who also crafted Toronto's St. George's, Jasper and Banff in the Rockies and Highlands Links on Cape Breton Island. It is as pleasant a golf outing as one could wish for, suitable for players of all abilities. A bit of Canadiana is also experienced during the round as players glance over at the world-famous Anne of Green Gables house.

Other fine courses include Rustico Resort, Clyde River, Glen Afton, Forest Hills, Stanhope, Summerside, Beaver Valley and Belfast Highlands. But to focus on just golf is to ignore so much about the Island. During your visit, take time to sample the culture, chow down on a lobster dinner, and meet some Islanders. You will be glad you did.

To find out more about visiting PEI, contact Tourism PEI at 1-800-463-4PEI (4734).



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ERICSSON

PROFILES

Born Goldsboro, NC, Jan. 13, 1957. Besides Windermere, FL. Wife, Alicia; daughter, Michelle, son, Shaun Robert. Attended Long Beach State. Enjoys golf course consulting, hunting and fishing. Turned pro and joined the Tour in 1980.

Mark O'Meara's victory in The Masters this past April put to rest the trivia question: Which player won just about every pro-am format PGA Tour event each year he played but could not win a major? In 18 years on Tour, O'Meara has won six pro-am events: the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am (formerly the Bing Crosby) a record five times and the 1991 Walt Disney/Oldsmobile Classic. And he lost two others in playoffs! In all, he has 15 Tour wins, including the 1995 Bell Canadian Open and the 1996 Mercedes Championships, and his six international triumphs include the 1997 Trophee Lancome. His two wins over here in 1997 were the AT&T and the Buick Invitational, they and four other top 10s helped him bank $1,124,560 (13th) in Tour winnings, bumping him to fifth spot on the career money list ($8,506,774). He may have been getting complacent until Tiger Woods joined the Tour and moved into the same Orlando neighborhood. O'Meara beat the young phenom by a shot at last year's AT&T and matched Tiger's final-round 64 as the two friends finished T2 (tied for second) at the 1998 Mercedes Championships. O'Meara's on-course strengths are his short game, sand play, putting and mental discipline.

Born Seattle, WA, Oct. 3, 1959. Besides Dallas, TX. Single. Attended University of Houston. Enjoys all sports, tennis, antiques, bicycling and antique cars. Turned pro in 1980; PGA Tour Qualifying School in 1980.

Fred Couples has posed a puzzle for fellow competitors and fans alike for the almost two decades he has been on Tour. When Freddie wants to play, he's the best. Tom Kite said just before picking Couples as a captain's choice for the 1997 Ryder Cup. There is no question about that. He has claimed 13 Tour victories including the 1992 Masters and the Players Championship in 1984 and 1996. So



Mike Weir, in his rookie year on the PGA Tour, is looking forward to playing in the Expert 'A' Skins Game.

far this year, he has won the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic and the Memorial. Five international victories include two Johnnie Walker World Championships and the low individual honors at the World Cup. But in 1997, his game faltered when his father became ill. As a result, he finished outside the top 30 for only the second time in the last 11 years. He played in only 15 events, preferring to remain close to his family and friends, but posted seven top 10s. There are few things more enjoyable than watching Couples's loopy, lazy, lashing swing propel a golf ball down the fairway. While the cruel fates have inflicted an arthritic back on this future Hall of Famer, he still managed to rank eighth in driving distance in 1997, and was 30th in total driving. The Expert A Skins Game three-time champion was ranked fourth on tour in eagles last season and 10th in birdies.

Born Carmichael, CA, April 28, 1955. Besides Rogers, AR. Single. Attended University of Arkansas. Enjoys most sports. Turned pro in 1987; PGA Tour Qualifying School in 1990.

The job John Daly has done of reinventing himself in the wake of alcoholism and family strife is even more impressive than what he has accomplished on the golf course. And his on-course efforts have been superb. Named the 1991 PGA Tour rookie of the year, Daly grabbed the golfing public's imagination when he won the PGA Championship that year after slipping into the field as the final alternate. In the first round, without benefit of a practice round, he fired a 69, thundering 300-yard drives and then sticking mile-high iron shots to within inches of the hole. In 1995, he won the British Open, his second major title prior to his 30th birthday. Only three other players—Jack Nicklaus, Tom Watson and Johnny Miller—have accomplished that feat since the Second World War. His speed of play, lighthearted approach to the game and his unparalleled length have made him a crowd favorite at every tour stop. In 1997, he became the first tour player in history to average more than 300 yards per drive (302.0).

Born Sarnia, Ont., May 12, 1970. Besides Draper, UT/Bright's Grove, Ont. Wife, Erica; daughter Elle Marisa. Attended Brigham Young University. Enjoys hockey and fishing. Turned pro in 1992; PGA Tour Qualifying School in 1997.

While Mike Weir, the pride of Bright's Grove, Ont., may be struggling a touch trying to adjust to his rookie year on the PGA Tour, the prospect of playing against three of the tour's most formidable veterans at the Expert A Skins Game doesn't faze him. "It will be a lot of fun. I have gotten to know those guys a little bit this year and they're great guys," says Weir. "There won't be any pressure."

"Those guys" are Fred Couples, Mark O'Meara and John Daly. Between them, they have more than 40 tour victories, including four majors. Couples has won this competition three times and collected more than three-quarters of a million dollars in skins. Daly averaged more than 300 yards per drive last season and O'Meara is merely the reigning Masters champion.

But, says Weir, all that is history when you step on the first tee. "I love the skins format. I played against (former PGA Tour play-



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INTERVIEW



To put it in golf parlance, there may be a skins game on the golf course, but there is a scramble behind the scenes. And the man at the centre of that scramble is Joel Darling, senior executive producer for CBC Sports.

"The skins game is the one event I assign to myself. I'm a real golf fan," says Darling who, until his twin boys were born two years ago, had spent most of his 34 years playing golf. He enjoys the challenges inherent in producing a competition that is played over 150 acres, rather than in the confines of a hockey arena or ballpark.

"We have to cover every single hole. We have to be able to show where a ball lands anywhere on the course, otherwise that could be the shot that makes all the difference to the event."

Darling's crew utilizes a mobile unit equipped with five hardwired cameras and four wireless ones, which hopscotch all over the course as play proceeds. "For example, when the players leave the first tee, our people have to break down a 100-pound camera and a 20-foot scaffold and move ahead a couple of holes," says Darling. "It's a tough job."

It may not be Operation Desert Storm, but there is a tremendous amount of planning leading up to the competition itself. "It starts months ahead when we walk every step of the golf course, planning what we're going to do right down to the actual hole positions that will be used."

Darling's job doesn't end until the final putt is drained. His responsibilities cover all aspects of the broadcast, from scheduling commercials to ensuring the show ends on time. "Basically, when you're at home watching the ball in the air, I'm already thinking of what happens when it lands."

As in previous years, the two days of the Export 'A' Skins Game will be broadcast nationally on CBC Sports. It will be broadcast in Quebec on RDS.

ers) Jim Nelford, Ray Stewart and Dan Halldorson in a skins game before last year's Greater Vancouver Open and won it with nine birdies and an eagle.

This home brew may have an advantage over the visitors from south of the border, in any case. "I love Crowbush. It's a great course for a skins game because of the risk-reward on so many holes. I played a Canadian Tour event there in 1995 and finished in the top 10."

Weir doesn't mind long odds. He's a left-handed Canadian who took five cracks at the PGA Tour's nerve-wracking qualifying school before breaking through this year. "I decided to take my time, play on the Canadian Tour and learn how to be a professional. I also had to revamp my swing."

He remembers standing on the range at the Canadian Open a few years back and watching as the PGA Tour stalwarts worked on their games. "I looked at Nick Price and Faldo and those guys hitting the ball and knew I didn't have their game. The flight of the ball was so different from mine. So I decided to tear my swing down and do it right."

Working with Mike Wilson, an instructor in California, Weir has been doing just that. "It's at a very technical stage right now, but I know I'm doing the right thing if I am going to achieve my long-term goals. I expect a lot of myself and sometimes I get frustrated when things don't go my way in the short term, but I'm optimistic that things will straighten out in the long run."

Playing in the Export 'A' Skins Game against Couples, Daly and O'Meara, rebuilding your swing in the middle of your rookie season on tour – that's not pressure, says Weir.

"Your wife expecting a baby any minute while you're sweating it out at the qualifying school, that's pressure."

Other Achievements: 1998 PGA Tour member; Played on Canada's 1997 World Cup team, T5 in 1996 Greater Vancouver Open (PGA TOUR event), Won 1996 Desert Tour event, T2 in 1995 Export 'A' Inc. Ontario Open and Infiniti Championship, Won 1993 Infiniti Tournament Players Championship, 1993 Canadian Tour rookie of the year; Won 1992 and 1990 Ontario Amateur Championship, 1992, 1991 second in Canadian Amateur Championship, 1992 2nd team All-American, WAC Player of the Year, 7th NCAA Championship, Won 1988 Ontario Junior; Won 1986 Canadian Juvenile.

GREG NORMAN

Defending champion Greg Norman, who won $3 skins worth $275,000 in last year's Export 'A' Skins Game at B.C.'s Nicklaus North Golf Club, was scratched from this year's competition after arthroscopic surgery on his left shoulder in April. More than 20 years of pounding golf balls and turf finally took their toll on the 43-year-old Australian, causing the ball of his shoulder joint to slide in its socket. Norman's doctors say he should be able to hit balls again in mid-August and could return to competition in November. Unfortunately, the injury also forced Norman to give up one of his fondest dreams: he was scheduled to drive the pace car at the Indy 500 in May. Fortunately, for fans of the Export 'A' Skins Game, Mark O'Meara agreed to replace Norman, just days after his victory at the Masters. ■

A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS

The Export 'A' Skins Game, presented by NEC, is also supported by Sprint Canada, BMW Canada, Entrepreneur, Investors Group, Star Choice, Greg Norman Collection, Maxfli, Moosehead Breweries, Perrier, Tourism PEI, The Globe and Mail and Score Magazine. International Management Group is the owner of the Skins Game trademark.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets are available for the Export 'A' Skins Game Celebrity-Am on Sunday, July 26th featuring sports and entertainment celebrities. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased through Ticketmaster at 1-888-222-6608. All other tickets for the event sold out in February within 60 minutes of going on sale.

AIR TIMES

The Export 'A' Skins Game will be televised nationally on CBC on Monday, July 27 and Tuesday, July 28 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in your area except for Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island where it will begin at 8:00 p.m. locally and in Newfoundland at 8:30 p.m. It will be broadcast in French on RDS in Quebec beginning at 7:00 p.m. The entire broadcast will be repeated the following Saturday and Sunday afternoon on the CBC national network.

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Martin Lee, leader of the Democratic Party, which gained 13 seats. "The voters have given us an absolute mandate to press for more democracy." Even Tsang Yok-sing, leader of the solidly pro-Beijing Democratic Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong Party, says he supports moves towards democracy. He is also surprisingly critical of Tung. "His avuncular image makes him popular in peaceful times," says Tsang. "But now people are complaining, 'We're in the middle of a storm and the captain is invisible.'"

The chief executive has also sent some ambiguous messages about the rule of law. Outspoken pro-democracy politician Emily Lau is suing Xinhua, China's secretive news agency and longtime unofficial embassy, because it took 10 months to reply to her request for any data it held on her. Though clearly in conflict with the law, Xinhua was not prosecuted, said Tung, because it was only a "technical breach." Then three *Hong Kong Standard* executives were accused of conspiring with the English-language newspaper's owner, Sally Aw Sian, to falsify circulation figures. The executives are being prosecuted, but not Aw, a friend of Tung and a member of a Chinese consultative committee.

Such cases provoke vitriolic comment on radio call-in programs, which have grown in popularity. But the press is more careful. "The papers are doing such a good job of self-censorship that Beijing doesn't even have to lift the phone," says Liu Kin-ming, vice-chairman of the Hong Kong Journalists' Association. "They are going overboard to be acceptable to China." Even more disturbing, just before the provisional legislature disbanded it rushed through a law to exempt local offices of China's state organizations from 500 Hong Kong statutes. "The government fails repeatedly to enact laws in conformity with international human rights standards," says Law Yuk-kai, director of Hong Kong's Human Rights Monitor. "We have the rule by law, not *of* law."

A burning issue is the implementation of Article 23 of the Basic Law, Hong Kong's mini-constitution. The section bars acts of sedition, subversion, secession and the theft of state secrets, crimes that on the mainland often result in long prison sentences for activities that would be legal in most democracies. Tung has said he favors such measures, although Hong Kong officials insist that the implementation would be very different from China. Even so, Frank Lu Siqing fears his information centre on human rights in China would be closed. One of a handful of Chinese dissidents still in Hong Kong, Lu actively monitors mainland conditions. "Every day, I receive faxes and calls about people being arrested," he says.

Clinton may have made some inroads in raising such issues in China during his groundbreaking trip. But as the President found when he reached his $4,600-a-night suite at the Grand Hyatt hotel, Hong Kong is still not the same as China.

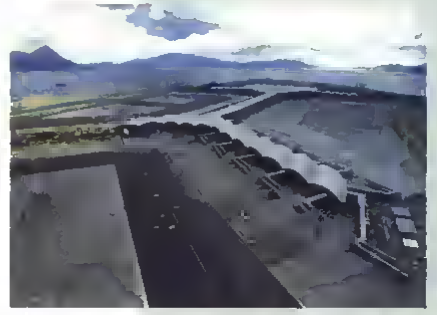
DAVID BAIRD *in Hong Kong*

Great airport, bad timing

Its colossal Y-shaped passenger terminal has been likened to a flight of geese. Renowned British architect Sir Norman Foster, who created the cathedral-like centrepiece, calls it "a Guinness Book of Records terminal" because of its size and technological marvels. But as the new Hong Kong International Airport begins operation this week, local residents are praying they haven't been saddled with an albatross.

One of the world's most ambitious engineering projects, the airport and its dazzling infrastructure—including a high-speed train between downtown Hong Kong and Lantau Island, site of the facility—cost $29 billion. But the forecast of 35 million passengers in the first year could be wildly optimistic, for the airport is taking off at a time when Hong Kong's economy and tourism have nose-dived and recession is cutting travel plans all over Asia. Visitor arrivals in Hong Kong slumped by nine per cent to 10.4 million last year. Nearby airports in mainland China and the neighboring Portuguese enclave of Macau are stepping up competition. And Hong Kong will lose another big chunk of business if China permits direct flights (now banned) between Taiwan and the mainland.

Not that these worries were evident at the official opening last week. A huge dragon dance performed by 500 people greeted Chinese President Jiang Zemin before he unveiled a plaque at the facility. Foster's 1.3-km-long terminal, with 288 check-in counters and 38 gates, is billed as the largest enclosed space ever constructed. Five 747s could fit wing tip to wing tip in the baggage hall. The arching roof allows natural light to flood in—"it's a light machine," says Foster. Trains travelling at speeds up to 135 km/h link the airport—plus a new town expected to house 200,000 people—with downtown Hong Kong 34 km away (initial fare: $13, rising to $19 in October). The railway and a new highway zip through tunnels and over the new 1,377 m Tsing Ma bridge, the world's longest road and rail suspension bridge, connecting Lantau and the Hong Kong mainland.



The new facility at Chek Lap Kok: the economy and tourism have nose-dived

Some travellers are already waxing nostalgic about Hong Kong's old airport, Kai Tak, in the heart of the city, where aircraft almost brushed the tenement blocks of Kowloon before landing. But in handling 30 million passengers annually, it was overstretched—and an accident waiting to happen. Landing at the new site, Chek Lap Kok, may be dull in comparison, but unlike Kai Tak it will be allowed to operate 24 hours a day.

To create the new airport off once-peaceful Lantau, two small islands were flattened and 938 hectares of land reclaimed from the sea, employing the largest dredger fleet ever assembled. "When I first came to Hong Kong, the task seemed overwhelming. I described it as a big mining project," recalls airport management director Chem Heed, a native of Kamloops, B.C.

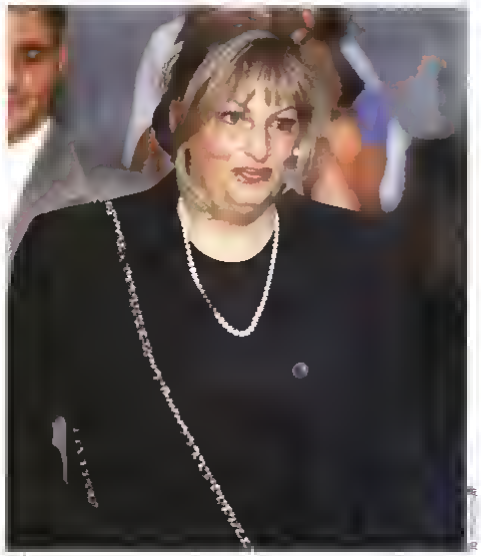
Kanata, Ont.-based Newbridge Networks Corp. supplied transmission technology for the airport telecommunications and computer systems. But Canadian companies as a group captured barely one per cent of the value of contracts awarded, compared with 27 per cent for Japan and 16 per cent for Britain. "A lack of Canadian interest was one factor, rather than losing out in competition," says Canada's trade commissioner in Hong Kong, Neil Clegg. His opposite number in Toronto, Hong Kong trade office director Donald Tong, is now promoting $44 billion worth of new infrastructure projects to potential Canadian bidders.

For the airport's backers, the good news is that it no longer suffers from the political headaches that dogged the project during the early 1990s. At the time, Beijing blocked its progress in protest against the pro-democracy policies of Britain's last governor, Chris Patten. That long battle postponed the airport's completion, extinguishing Britain's early hopes of a final glory opening the gleaming new pearl of the Orient while the Union Jack still flew.

D.B. *in Hong Kong*

Humanizing Linda

The stakes rise for Starr as a key witness testifies



Tripp en route to the grand jury. Lewinsky, she says, 'cultivated me'

ANDREW PHILLIPS IN WASHINGTON

If ever there was someone who needed a dose of that quintessential Washington phenomenon, spin, it was Linda Tripp. For months, she had been lampooned as the villain of the sex-and-lies scandal swirling around US President Bill Clinton. She was the woman who betrayed her erstwhile friend, Monica Lewinsky, by secretly taping their conversations, and the person who allegedly plotted to bring down a president for the sake of a book deal. Worse, she seemed to be someone for whom every day was a bad hair day. No wonder that one of her lawyers acknowledged that their first task last week, as Tripp began her testimony before the grand jury investigating the scandal, was simply to "make her human."

And so the campaign began. On her newly constructed Web site (*www.lindatripp.com*), she bemoaned "the organized effort to discredit me as a witness" and invited supporters to write in for an "I believe Linda Tripp" bumper sticker—"while supplies last." Designated "friends" took to the political talk-show circuit to defend Tripp as a woman forced to tape Lewinsky to protect her own credibility. Others leaked information suggesting that far from pursuing Lewinsky, Tripp tried to break off their friendship after the younger woman bombarded her with visits and phone calls about her purported affair with Clinton. "Please give me a break," Tripp told Lewinsky in an e-mail last October. "I can't take this." And in her first interview since the scandal became public in January, Tripp told *The Washington Post* that while they both worked at low-level jobs in the Pentagon, "I did not cultivate Monica—she cultivated me." Lewinsky, she added, "is a very worldly person. *She* educated *me*."

All that might be just another round of he said/she said in a scandal that threatens to disappear in the maze of its own intricate complications. But Tripp, who testified for two full days last week, was the most important witness to appear so far before the grand jury convened by independent counsel Kenneth Starr. Clinton's longtime legal tormentor. For five months—ever since the first allegations surfaced that the President had sex in the White House with onetime intern Lewinsky and then asked her to lie about it—a parade of minor characters has trooped through the grand jury room on the third floor of the E. Barrett Prettyman federal courthouse next door to the Canadian Embassy on Washington's Pennsylvania Avenue. Most were able to provide only incidental details about the alleged Clinton-Lewinsky liaison. Tripp, however, taped some 20 hours of phone conversations with Lewinsky in which, according to excerpts that have been made public, the young woman pours out her heart about an 18-month sexual relationship with the President. Tripp turned the tapes over to Starr's office on Jan. 12.

Even more important, Tripp is the source of a three-page memo known as the "talking points." Tripp says Lewinsky gave her the memo on Jan. 14, suggesting ways in which she could alter her story in a court deposition to make it more favorable to Clinton. The suspicion is that it was not the 24-year-old Lewinsky who drafted the document, but one of the President's legal advisers. That would involve serious offences such as obstruction of justice and suborning perjury (asking someone to lie in a legal proceeding). If Starr can demonstrate that someone close to Clinton committed those crimes, the scandal could threaten his presidency.

In fact, that appears to be Starr's only hope of seriously damaging Clinton. He has been investigating the President and his wife, Hillary, for more than four years without (as White House officials constantly point out) finding any evidence of wrongdoing by them. In recent weeks, other aspects of Starr's investigation, going back to the intricate Whitewater land scandals in Arkansas, have run into dead ends or suffered legal setbacks. A grand jury he had convened in Arkansas disbanded in May without issuing any new charges in connection with Whitewater, a judge released Susan McDougal, an old Clinton ally who had been jailed for refusing to testify against the President, and other judges have ruled against Starr in his efforts to obtain documents or compel testimony from some of Clinton's aides. Last week, Starr suffered another defeat as a judge in Washington dismissed tax evasion charges against Webster Hubbell, a former Arkansas associate of the Clintons. Starr's case against Hubbell, the judge ruled, amounted to a "quintessential fishing expedition."

That leaves sex and lies—the areas in which Tripp and Lewinsky have the most crucial evidence. Starr has turned up some supporting evidence in that area. Before Tripp testified, another woman, Dale Young, told the grand jury that Lewinsky had also confided in her about a relationship with Clinton. Young, a friend of the Lewinsky family, told *Newsweek* that in 1996 Monica Lewinsky related a story similar to what she later told Tripp—that she was engaged in a sexual relationship with Clinton. According to Young, however, Lewinsky said that Clinton set strict ground rules for their encounters, specifically that "nothing was ever taken to completion." It was, concluded Young, "basically like foreplay"—allowing the President to deny publicly later that he had had sex, according to his definition, with Lewinsky. On such matters, it would seem, rests the political fate of America's 41st president. □

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A motive for murder?

The Albert Walker case heads for the jury

Even as he made the most startling admissions, Canadian fugitive Albert Walker maintained the self-assurance of a successful businessman—smiling frequently, and speaking in a rich, soothing voice. Seated in the witness box in the British courtroom where he was on trial for murder, the 52-year-old former Paris, Ont., resident admitted stealing money from investors in the financial services companies he once owned. He admitted lying about his identity and background to almost everyone he met during six years as a fugitive in England. But he carefully avoided revealing the nature of his relationship with daughter Sheena, who fled Canada with him in December, 1990, at age 15 and bore two daughters while they were on the run. And he shed tears as he denied murdering 51-year-old Ronald Platt, the television repairman whose identity he used for 3½ years. "Did you kill Ron Platt?" defence lawyer Richard Ferguson asked. "No, I didn't," Walker replied, his voice choked. "Ron Platt was a very nice person. I have no reason in the world to ever kill him or ever harm him."

The truthfulness of those statements was to be determined by the jury of eight women and four men, who were expected to begin deliberations early this week following a speedy 2½-week trial. Prosecutor Charles Barton called or entered written testimony from 36 witnesses—including 22-year-old Sheena Walker—to buttress the Crown's theory that on July 20, 1996, Albert Walker knocked Platt unconscious while the two men sailed off the southwest coast of England, then tossed the victim overboard with a 4.5-kg anchor attached to his waist. If convicted, Walker could spend the rest of his life in prison. In the event of an acquittal, British authorities planned to re-arrest Walker and ship him back to Canada where he faces 37 charges of theft and fraud in connection with $3.2 million stolen from Walker's Financial Services Inc. and United Canvest Corp., two companies he controlled.

As the jurors listened to the evidence, their job was made more complex by the unspoken, but disturbing question that hovered over the trial: is Albert Walker the father of Sheena's children—Emily, now 4, and Lily, 2? It arose, implicitly, when Sheena testified about her relationship with her father, and it surfaced again when Walker tried to explain, in carefully chosen language, why they had begun posing as man and wife in 1993. "Because she was pregnant and she was going to have a baby, we were as husband and wife," Walker said while being examined by his lawyer. "She was somewhat embarrassed that she was a single girl and wanted to have the appearance that she wasn't single."

The questions became more pointed during Barton's cross-examination of Walker. The portly lawyer stood a couple of paces away from the witness box, stared straight ahead without ever looking directly at Walker, and questioned him in a deep, aggressive voice. "You called her what?" he asked, incredulously, at one point.

"Noel," Walker replied, referring to one of his daughter's aliases.

"And she was calling you what?"

"Daddy."

"But not in front of other people?"

"Yes," said the accused man.

"That must have raised eyebrows," Barton suggested.

"Why?" asked Walker.

"Because you were living as husband and wife."

To further muddy the waters, Walker added: "Emily called me Daddy and Sheena called me Daddy. Occasionally, she would call me Ron. But when Ron [Platt] was there, she just called me Daddy or Dad."

Shortly after that, the jurors sought some clarification. Following the mid-morning break on Walker's second day in the box, a juror passed Justice Neil Butterfield a note containing three questions. After conferring with prosecution and defence lawyers in the absence of the jurors, Butterfield had them brought back and answered two of the queries—one pertaining to hair and blood samples the police had sought from Walker, and the other about a small over-the-shoulder bag Platt carried in days leading up to his death. However, Butterfield would not answer the first question, or even read it aloud in court, saying: "Both counsel are agreed it has no relevance to this case whatsoever."

In fact, the prosecution case against Walker rested largely on circumstantial evidence. There were no witnesses to put Platt on Walker's boat, the Lady Jane, on the day he died. Police established Platt's identity, as well as the date and time of his death, through the Rolex watch found on his body after it was scooped up on July 28, along with an anchor, by a commercial fisherman trawling off the southwest coast of England. Investigators demonstrated that the anchor belonged to Walker, and found physical evidence suggesting that it had been fastened to Platt's waist. Meanwhile, an instrument known as a Global Positioning System, which Walker kept aboard the Lady Jane, placed him within four nautical miles of where Platt's body was found, and on the day the victim died.

The prosecution set out to bolster the scant physical evidence by proving that Walker had a motive. The jurors heard that Walker had befriended Platt and his longtime girlfriend Elaine Boyes in early 1991. He gave her a job with a company he set up to launder stolen money, and provided him with money to start a television repair business. In early 1993, he bought them airline tickets to Canada and provided money to start new lives in Calgary, where they settled. In exchange, Walker convinced Platt to give him his birth certificate, driver's licence and credit card so Walker could use Platt's identity. But the scheme began to unravel when Boyes returned home in July, 1993, and Platt followed two years later. He settled in Chelmsford, a few kilometres from the village of Woodham Walter where Walker was living as Ronald Platt. "The risks of that situation carrying on were all too obvious," Barton told the jurors. "It only needed somebody to put two and two together and his cover was blown."

Along with establishing a motive, Barton demonstrated that Walker was a con man and a colossal liar. During a gruelling, three-hour cross-examination, the defendant was forced to admit that he had deceived everyone he became acquainted with in England about his personal background, his education, the source of his money and his relationship with his daughter. "Confidence is what it's all about, your game," Barton said disdainfully while questioning him about his dealings with Boyes and Platt.

"Confidence, yes," replied Walker. "But I thought he would see me as someone who was well-dressed and spoke well and was offering his girlfriend a job."

"Not detecting you for the complete sham that you were," said Barton.

"Yes."

"You fooled him then and you fooled him right up to his death, didn't you?"

"Yes," Walker responded firmly.

But while admitting that he was a thief, a fugitive and a liar, Walker steadfastly denied being a murderer. Under questioning from his own lawyer, Walker said he last saw Platt, whom Sheena described as his "only real friend," on July 10 while vacationing in the town of Dittisham, in southwest England, with Sheena and the two girls. He maintained that Platt, who was staying in the nearby village of Totnes, had agreed to help him sail the Lady Jane to Essex, the county in southeastern England where he, his daughter and the girls were living. Walker testified that they set out on July 8, but abandoned the trip after Platt banged his head and became sick. Two days later, Walker said, the luckless Platt left for France to start a new business—with only a small overnight bag. The accused man admitted he went sailing on July 20, the day Platt died, but insisted he was alone and nowhere near the alleged murder scene.

With his testimony concluded, and all the other evidence in, Walker sat passively in the prisoner's dock as Barton and Ferguson made their final arguments to the jury. Speaking in a relaxed, matter-of-fact style, Ferguson suggested there was ample evidence to conclude that Platt was depressed and suicidal in the weeks leading up to his death, and may have taken his own life. Barton argued, with occasional rhetorical flights, that the combination of evidence, motive and character should lead the jurors to only one conclusion. "That man is a murderer," he thundered, pointing a finger straight at Walker. "He prepared, with a degree of planning that I would describe as chilling, to execute Ronald Platt." This week, the jury will confront that proposition.

D'ARCY JENISH *with DON MACGILLIVRAY in Exeter*



TONY ROCK TORONTO STAR



ELIZABETH CORDWELL/PA



ELIZABETH CORDWELL/PA

Prosecutor Barton (above left) with defence lawyer Ferguson; the Lady Jane (left); Walker (right): admitting countless lies—but no guilt

The shadow of 'Dr. Death'

The probe of a shocking campaign against blacks reaches into Canada

Amid the placid Prairie breezes that sweep the streets of Provost, Alta., Deon Erasmus goes about his business like a typical country doctor. There are babies to deliver, house calls to make, local hospital meetings to attend. Rural medicine is a dream come true for the 42-year-old family physician, who, with his wife, Antoinette, left the strife of his native South Africa in 1991 for a quieter, more secure life in Canada. As a military medical officer, Erasmus witnessed the horrors of guerrilla warfare in Angola and the brutal repression of apartheid. South Africa's old system of racial segregation. Today, South African doctors are still flocking to Canada, seeking a foreign haven from rising crime, a falling currency and wrenching changes to the health-care system. "We've got kids now, and you don't want your kids living in that kind of atmosphere," says Antoinette Erasmus, 39, and now, like her husband, a landed immigrant. "For me, that's why Canada is so wonderful—it's just a great place to be."

But even in a peaceful Prairie town, the past can be an unexpected intruder. It came back to claim Deon and Antoinette Erasmus last week, when South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission said it wants to question them in connection with bizarre, and often shocking, allegations about chemical and biological weapons secretly developed by the South African army between 1983 and 1992 to target blacks. Jacobus Bothma, a former South African military doctor who has worked as an orthopedic surgeon in North Battleford, Sask., since 1994, was also named as a potential witness. The attorney general in the northern province of Transvaal would like to interview them, too, for his criminal case against their former boss Wouter Basson, an internist and former high-ranking army officer nicknamed "Dr. Death." The investigators stress, however, that they want to talk to the three as cooperative witnesses rather than suspects.

Basson was in charge of the sinister chemical weapons program, dubbed Project Coast. In testimony before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in recent weeks, Project Coast researchers and scientists—hoping eventually to be granted amnesty—told investigators that the program produced mass quantities of cholera, anthrax and botulism, and developed specialized poisons to kill enemies of apartheid through James Bond-style poison-tipped umbrellas, screwdrivers and clothing impregnated with lethal toxins. The chemicals were designed to cause death without leaving any trace. Several black leaders, including Steve Biko, subject of the movie *Cry Freedom*, are now believed to have been poisoned by toxins produced by army researchers. Another plan, never carried out, called for imprisoned anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela, now president of the country, to be slowly poisoned to the point of losing his mental capacity, then released from jail.



Basson: germ warfare and poisons that kill without a trace

Nothing was too grotesque for Project Coast. Medical researcher Schalk van Rensburg testified that in 1985, Basson asked him to come up with a vaccine to render black women infertile. The infertility vaccine never materialized, so Basson asked another researcher to develop bacteria that would only harm blacks; that attempt also failed. The doctor also once said that rebellious black communities should be "sorted out with cholera," which he kept in ample doses in a bar fridge in one of his labs. Basson is suspected of selling his chemical weapons secrets to Libya in 1994, and now faces 20 charges of murder, fraud and possession of illicit drugs, such as Ecstasy and Mandrax, much of them allegedly destined for black shantytowns that now have serious drug problems.

Prairie doctors Erasmus and Bothma were both lieutenant-colonels assigned to Basson's labs, while Antoinette Erasmus worked as a librarian for Infladel (Pty) Ltd., a Pretoria-based front company set up to funnel government money to Project Coast. But while they say they knew Basson personally, the three insist they were involved only in routine medical work and had no knowledge of the horrifying experiments carried out under his command. "He was a very compassionate person, as far as I'm concerned," says Bothma, 43. "Years after I left the military, he used to phone my wife when it was her birthday."

Bothma maintains he had never heard of Project Coast until agents with the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, who were accompanying South African intelligence agents, questioned him about the matter early last year. Antoinette Erasmus, who was also questioned last year, says she was aware that chemical weapons were being developed "for defensive purposes," but had no knowledge of other weapons. Still, all work at Infladel was carried out in top secrecy. "Everything you worked on you would lock away in a safe at the end of the day," she recalls. "We worked on a 'need-to-know' basis, so I didn't question people."

Bothma and the Erasmuses say they are willing to co-operate with South African investigators, but have received no request to testify. Basson, for his part, refuses to say anything to the commission, arguing that this could prejudice his criminal cases. For Bothma, the uncertainty "is really churning my guts" as he continues practising on a temporary work permit. "As far as I'm concerned, it's a storm in a teacup," he says. "I just hope it goes away, but I don't think it's going to." Not, at least, if South African investigators have their way.

JOHN SCHOFIELD *with* KATE DUNN *in Cape Town*

World NOTES

FREEDOM IN NIGERIA

Nigeria's military regime agreed to release all political prisoners, said UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. Among the hundreds of detainees to be freed was Moshood Abiola, who won Nigeria's last democratic election in 1993, but was jailed by the military rulers. Annan, who said Abiola would drop his claim to the presidency, did not make public any firm commitments from the regime about a return to civilian rule.

POPE SILENCES DISSENT

Pope John Paul II moved to quash liberal dissenters in the Roman Catholic Church by making changes to canon law. In an apostolic letter, he declared any deviation from the church's "divinely revealed truths" a violation of church law, eliminating any possibility of more liberal interpretation. The teachings affirm that only men may be ordained as priests, and ban sex outside marriage.

CLASHES IN KOSOVO

Heavy fighting erupted in Yugoslavia's troubled Kosovo province, as Serbian forces attempted to crush the Kosovo Liberation Army. The Serbs recaptured a vital coal mine from the ethnic Albanian insurgents, ending what was the KLA's greatest victory to date. About a third of Kosovo is now under the control of the rebel army.

SWISS BANK BOYCOTT

Top American financial officials agreed to impose sanctions on Swiss banks starting on Sept. 1, after the breakdown of negotiations over Jewish claims on assets they say were withheld after the Holocaust. California, New York state and New York City, all of which have pension funds with large Swiss holdings, said they would take increasingly stiff measures against the banks, including cutting off new business. The banks said they might sue over the move.

CNN RETRACTS A STORY

An embarrassed Cable News Network retracted a high-profile story, which also ran in *Time* magazine, alleging that the American military used lethal sarin nerve gas to kill defectors during the Vietnam War. An independent investigation for CNN showed the story was not supported by evidence. *Time*, owned along with CNN by Time Warner Inc., also apologized.



FLORIDA'S INFERNO:

Firefighters in Mims, Fla., spray water on a fire threatening a residential area. More than 120,000 people were under evacuation orders in three northeastern counties as forest fires spread along the coast and into the heart of the state. Officials feared the blazes might join up into one huge conflagration. The region contains both the Kennedy Space Center and the theme parks of Orlando, including Disney World, although they did not appear threatened. The blazes led to the closing of a 160-km strip of the main coastal highway on the Fourth of July weekend, the busiest of the year. Firefighters reported 90 to 100 new fires each day, springing up in fields and forests bleached bone dry by a lengthy drought.

A new wave of Irish violence

British Prime Minister Tony Blair made an emergency visit to Belfast to visit the charred remains of one of 10 Catholic churches attacked by arsonists believed to be members of a dissident Protestant group. Police said the attacks were likely the work of the Loyalist Volunteer Army, which opposes the peace agreement in Northern Ireland. Tensions were high in the province as police prepared for a march by the Protestant Orange Order in the town of Portadown on July 5. The Orangemen vowed to march through the Catholic area of the fiercely sectarian town, although the government had outlawed the route. Violence has plagued the event for the past three years, but Protestants say banning the march violates their freedom of assembly.

The church attacks came just as a newly elected provincial assembly, called for under the peace pact, held its initial session. The meeting of the 108-member New Northern Ireland Assembly brought Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams and Protestant hardliner Ian Paisley face-to-face for the first time. Moderate Protestant leader David Trimble was elected First Minister, with Catholic Seamus Mallon of the Social Democratic and Labour Party as his deputy. The assembly's main task is to work out a new political structure for the North, giving the Catholic minority more power.

Summer sellout at the temple of Diana

Earl Spencer opened a $7-million shrine to his sister Diana, Princess of Wales, at Althorp, their childhood home, on July 1, which would have been Diana's 37th birthday. The museum includes Diana's wedding dress and her much-loved toy rabbit. Visitors can also catch a glimpse of the island where she is buried. Tickets, which cost $22, are sold out for the summer; the site closes on Aug. 30, the day before the first anniversary of the car crash that killed Diana, her boyfriend Dodi Fayed and their driver. Dodi's father, Mohamed Al Fayed, lashed out at Spencer for failing to include any mention of his late son in the museum.

The call of the competitor



Sprint's network management centre, Koor (left): no illusions

A takeover helps reshape the long-distance market

BY WARREN CARAGATA

Jurn Koor is a turnaround guy Give him an ailing company and the Estonian-born industrial engineer who came to Canada with his family when he was 12, will either fix it, sell it or close it down So when he became president of Call-Net Enterprises Inc , a small, relatively unknown telecommunications company in 1991, he expected it would take maybe nine months to put things in order and move on There was little doubt that the company was in trouble Formed in 1986 to compete against Canada's entrenched regional monopolies, Toronto-based Call-Net was on the verge of bankruptcy when Koor took charge "We had days when we didn t have money for Xerox paper and the coffee guy wouldn't bring coffee—it was all COD."

It has been some turnaround Koor, 57, is still there, one of the best-paid executives in Canada, with a 1997 compensation package worth $12 million And little Call-Net Enterprises, the parent company of Sprint Canada has just begun absorbing another long-distance company, Fonorola Inc. of Montreal. That hard-fought, $1 8-billion deal makes the combined company the main challenger to the old-line phone companies grouped together under the Stentor alliance, such as Bell Canada, Alberta's Telus Corp and B C Tel.

By many measures, Sprint now has the scale it takes to compete and become the full-service telecommunications company that Koor wants it to be Combined revenues last year were $1.3 billion Estimates from the Yankee Group in Canada, a Brockville, Ont., telecommunications consultancy put Sprint and Fonorola's share of the long-distance voice market this year at about 20 per cent That is well ahead of AT&T Canada Long Distance Services, and bigger even than any of the Stentor companies except for Bell Sprint s strength was serving residential customers and smaller business while Fonorola targeted large companies Fonorola is building a North American network of high-capacity fibre-optic cable that will allow Sprint to replace leased lines with its own and give it access to the biggest U S markets. "It makes Call Net a more well-rounded company,' says Toronto telecommunications analyst Michael Sone, president of NBI/Michael Sone Associates.

Koor's task now is to manage the integration, overcome the bad blood occasioned by a hostile takeover, all the while continuing to do battle with the giants. The first step came immediately, as 31 of Fonorola's senior managers were replaced by Sprint executives "I am a big believer in getting this stuff over early," says Koor Gone is Fonorola president Jan Peeters who Koor says could have stayed if he had wanted There was no place for him in the new company, says Yankee Group managing director Iain Grant. "Peeters was building a boutique Koor is building a locomotive."

Regardless of Call-Net's new strength, it never pays to underestimate a competitor as powerful as Bell, the dominant player and the local phone provider in Ontario and Quebec. Bell Canada's quarterly revenues of $2 6 billion were double the annual revenues of Sprint and Fonorola combined, and Bell rings up almost as much profit every day as Call-Net records over a quarter "Anybody who thinks that competing with Bell Canada is going to be easy should think again," says analyst Ian Angus of Angus TeleManagement Group in Ajax, Ont. Koor himself has no illusions. As he prepares for a two-week travelling road show to raise money to finance the takeover, he muses that Bell's treasurer could probably raise the same money with a couple of phone calls—and pay cheaper interest rates as well

Bell and the other Stentor companies have been steadily losing market share to the upstarts, and this year, according to Yankee Group estimates, will hold about 65 per cent of the long-distance phone market, compared with 75 per cent only two years ago But lately, Bell and its Stentor cousins have been showing a better understanding of the competitive threat from which the government had sheltered them until deregulation of the industry began in 1992. Grant says Bell's recent move to flat-rate, 10-cents-a-minute calls was aimed squarely at Sprint and its televised pitch from Candice Bergen to get "the most for the least." The new rates hurt Bell as well because the company is cutting its own revenues But, Grant adds, "it also constrains Call-Net and puts some definite limits on how much it could be expected to grow its revenues "

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission allowed full-scale competition in the long-distance market almost a decade after the industry had been deregulated in the United States. Since then, not only has the Stentor alliance of phone companies across the country lost market dominance, but prices have fallen dramatically A 1997 study by KPMG, commissioned by Call-Net, notes that the actual price of an average long-distance call dropped from 21.5 cents in 1995 to an estimated 17 cents in 1998 Without competition, the study says, the 17-cent call would have cost 48 cents.

Sprint's next challenge, and the coming battleground in the telecommunications industry, is the market for local phone service, expected to open up next year Koor says his strategy will be to get into the top 25 markets in the first three years, installing switches to access the existing local lines of the phone companies, building Call-Net's own network only as it builds its customer base "We get the customer first and then invest the capital " he says So important is the local market, with revenues estimated by the Yankee Group at about $7 5 billion, that nothing would stop Sprint from getting into it. If he had thought the takeover would have diverted corporate attention from the local prize, adds Koor, he would not have pursued Fonorola.

The takeover is only the latest piece in the deconstruction and reconstruction of Canada's telecommunications industry, an upheaval sparked both by deregulation and by the rise of the Internet and data transfer The phone system was built to handle the sound of people talking Increasingly, however, the digital hum of bits and bytes is taking over. Bell Canada estimates that by 2000, data will account for 80 per cent of phone-line traffic. Copper lines are being replaced by laser light and fibre optics. Technologies spawned by the Internet are replacing old-style telephone switches The takeover last month by Northern Telecom Ltd , owned by Bell Canada parent BCE Inc., of Bay Networks in the United States, a leader in Internet technologies, is just one more example of the corporate response to the changes So, too, was the revelation this spring that Telus Corp was in merger talks with AT&T Long Distance Services

The deal fell through, but the very thought of a Stentor partner making common cause with the competition was the most evident sign yet that the Stentor alliance, in its current form, is likely to be one of the casualties of the phone revolution. Bell has since announced that it is forming a new national company to service business customers across the country, a role that Stentor has played up to now "The writing is on the wall for Stentor," Angus believes.

As Koor prepares to take his company into the coming battles against the giants, in an industry where changes come as fast as decisions can be made to meet them, he recalls the dark days of Call-Net, back when he decided that the company needed three things it did not have—a recognizable brand, market knowledge and access to technology. That was when he convinced Sprint Corp to license its name and take a 25-per-cent equity investment in the company Sprint's U.S.-based executives arrived in Toronto by private jet. "Their Challengers were worth more than our company," says Koor Those days clearly are long behind him. □

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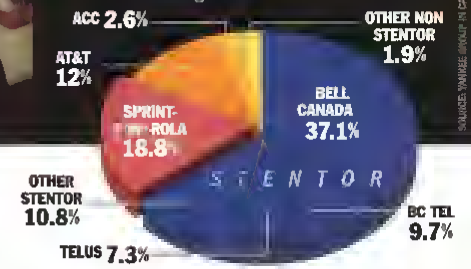
STENTOR'S DECLINE

Shares and estimated () shares of the market for long-distance voice calls*

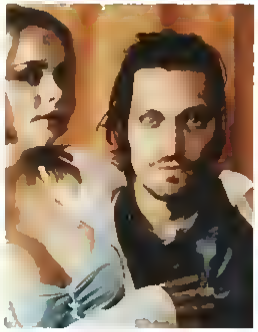
	1996	1997	1998	1999*
Stentor	75.4%	68.8%	68.9%	62.7%
Sprint Canada	10.2	12.8	14.0	15.6
Fonorola	2.5	3.7	3.9	4
AT&T	8.6	11	12	12.5
ACC TelEnterprises Ltd.	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.7
Other	1.1	1.5	1.9	2.2

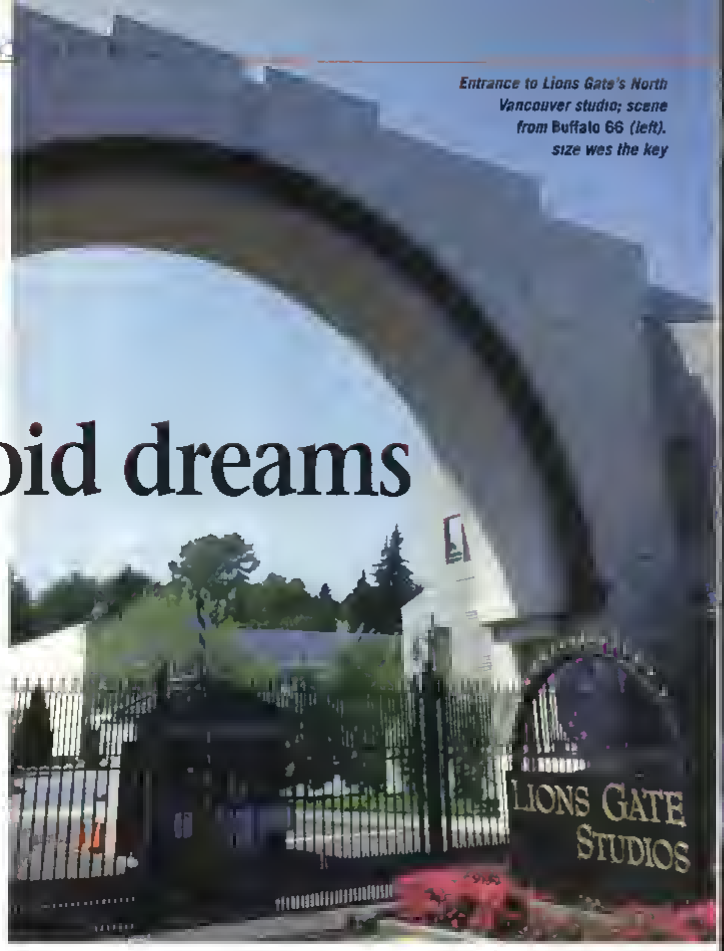
A TOUGH NEW COMPETITOR

Estimated 1998 shares of the market for long-distance voice calls:



SOURCE: YANKEE GROUP IN CANADA





Entrance to Lions Gate's North Vancouver studio; scene from Buffalo 66 *(left). size wes the key*

Celluloid dreams

A Vancouver broker aims to be Canada's top movie mogul

BY CHRIS WOOD

The movie business has long attracted hopeful outsiders. Many have learned the hard way that Hollywood is a world apart—a risky business where the uninitiated are routinely shorn

— Nancy Griffin and Kim Masters, *Hit and Run*

Frank Giustra has been warned. Eighteen months after leaving the chairman's job at Toronto-based Yorkton Securities Inc. as a millionaire, the 40-year-old former broker is directing one of the most audacious business plays in the country. Lions Gate Entertainment Corp., barely two months past its first birthday, is already a Canadian giant, with its hand in television, live-action movies, animation and the biggest studio lot north of Los Angeles. But Giustra's ambitions reach all the way to that famous sign in the Hollywood Hills. To hear him tell it, he has just completed Act 1 of a script that will create "something truly unique by Canadian standards—the Canadian equivalent of a U.S. studio."

That in itself is enough to make Lions Gate the most watched entertainment company in the country. But what really raised eyebrows in the investment community was Giustra's decision to enlist the help of one of the men who inspired Griffin and Masters to pen their merciless 1996 account of tinseltown excess—Peter Guber. (The book is subtitled *How Jon Peters and Peter Guber Took Sony for a Ride in Hollywood*.) Giustra's choice of the big spending former chairman and CEO of Sony Studios as his partner in the high-stakes movie game has drawn so much attention—most of it negative—that it threatens to overshadow the rest of his strategy. "He is playing in the riskiest part of our business," observed the head of a rival Canadian production house, insisting on anonymity. "And if you're playing in an intelligent way, you don't go with the guy who just burned Sony for a billion dollars."

The man directing the action at Lions Gate is unfazed. "I read the book," Giustra says, leaning forward on a beige sofa in his office, his back to the twin peaks that give Vancouver's famous bridge, and his company, their name. He insists that Guber will not leave his company with bruised hopes and empty pockets, as he did Sony. For one thing, Giustra claims, his contract with Guber gives the flamboyant producer no room to run up the kind of epic expenses he did at Sony. Besides, Giustra says Guber's performance is not a make-or-break proposition for Lions Gate. "That's not the business plan," says Giustra. "It never was."

The plan in question is just 18 months old. Giustra left Yorkton, a onetime boutique brokerage he had transformed from his Vancouver base into an international investment bank, at the end of 1996,



promising himself a six-month sabbatical. "I had a million and one fantasies. Go lie on a beach, travel down the Amazon." But first, Giustra, who had dabbled for years as an investor in the movie business, commissioned some research on the Canadian entertainment sector. The research came in and his beach fantasies were history. By February, 1997, Giustra had sketched the outline of a company that would operate across the spectrum of visual entertainment, from Saturday-morning cartoons and small art films, to prime-time dramas and big-budget features. And one other thing: the company would owe nothing to cultural policy, choosing its projects solely on market appeal, not for how well they reflect Canadian values in order to qualify for government subsidies.

Size was the key. "You can't approach this business on a one-off basis," Giustra reasoned. "To succeed, you need the wherewithal to do a program of pictures over a long period of time." Giustra scanned the lists of Canadian movie and television makers, animation houses and service providers, and concluded he could assemble from acquisitions a company able to produce material for North American and world audiences. "I knew I could raise the money," Giustra laughs. "It's what I *do*. I knew I was capable of raising north of $100 million."

But he still needed a connection in Hollywood. Los Angeles is where the big deals get made for North American movies, where the world comes to buy the rights to North American television series. Within weeks, Giustra was pitching his project to the former Sony chairman.

Griffin and Masters paint a harsh portrait of Guber, on whose watch Sony lost billions. His talent for matching scripts to actors and producers was offset by an epic appetite for lavish perks and payouts. On one occasion, to foster bonding among key studio executives, Guber took them rafting in the Grand Canyon—laying on an extra boat for dinnerware, a chef and a masseuse. "In an industry where avarice is not uncommon," the authors observe, "Guber and Peters distinguished themselves for greed."

After several meetings, Giustra reached his own conclusion about Guber. "Nobody is as good as he is at picking material and packaging it," says Giustra, citing Guber's many credits, including the mega-hits *Batman*, *Flashdance* and *The Color Purple*. "It's uncanny, and it's consistent over the years. If he only does what he did before, that sort of batting average is going to be fine."

While negotiations continued with Guber, Giustra began putting the rest of his plan into action. True to his resolve, he raised $120 million in two private share placements underwritten by a syndicate led by his former colleagues at Yorkton. Then he began buying:

- Cinepix Film Properties of Montreal, Canada's second-largest movie distributor after Alliance, in June, 1997, for 7.2 million Lions Gate shares, representing 15 per cent of the company's equity.
- North Shore Studios, Canada's biggest studio complex, a 14-acre lot in North Vancouver, in July, for $26.1 million and the assumption of a $10-million mortgage.
- Mandalay Television, a Los Angeles-based arm of the production company created for Guber as part of his departure from Sony, last September, for $1.8 million in cash and yet more shares.

Finally, in a manoeuvre straight from Giustra's early days on the Vancouver exchange, he launched a reverse takeover of a mining company, Beringer Gold Corp., which, with a name change, gave Lions Gate a listing on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Lions Gate began trading last November at $4.05 a share, closing last week at $2.65. Giustra says its fall does not worry him much. "Once all the pieces are in place," he says, "the share price will take care of itself."



JEFF VINNICK FOR MAUL 2/98

Giustra. 'I knew I could raise the money. It's what I do'

More pieces fell into place in March. At the same time as Giustra revealed some of the details of his deal with Guber, Lions Gate announced an agreement with Paramount to make as many as 20 feature films over the next five years, worth $1.2 billion. The two deals hinge on a new entity named Mandalay Pictures, jointly owned by Guber and two associates, and Lions Gate. Paramount and a group of international distributors will put up 90 per cent of the financing, and Lions Gate 10 per cent, for Mandalay to make an average of four movies a year. Paramount will distribute the films. Mandalay will keep title to them. At the end of the five-year term, Lions Gate has the right to buy out Guber and his partners' interest in the subsidiary for Lions Gate stock. Says Giustra: "For Guber to make any money, we have to be profitable."

Despite the big dollars attached, neither announcement lit much of a fire under Giustra's stock. "Lions Gate is basically a feature film play," says David McFadgen of the Montreal brokerage Griffiths McBurney. "And feature films are volatile. There's a risk that in any one year, you have a lot of bad films."

One person who thinks Giustra has swung a good deal with Guber is *Maclean's* columnist Peter C. Newman, who joined the Lions Gate board of directors in February. Says Newman: "Frank has Guber hog-tied." Yorkton analyst Roger Dent, meanwhile, notes that Giustra's big-screen deal with Guber "is a key feature, but by no means the only story," for the company.

By far the bulk of Lions Gates' assets, Dent notes, are outside its relationship with Guber—and profitable. Lions Gate Films, the former Cinepix, makes a dozen features a year in the under-$15 million price range, modest by Hollywood standards. *Buffalo 66*, one of two Lions Gate films screened at Colorado's Sundance film festival earlier this year, opened last week. In May, wholly-owned Mandalay Television announced orders for four network series. Lions Gate expects to turn a profit on revenues of $140 million in its first year, before Guber's unit has made a single film.

That, the former stockbroker says, is the model he started with: the one based on how the U.S. studios operate. "It takes one film to break out," Giustra says. "And that provides the big payday. In the meantime, we make a very good profit." Maybe so. But in betting his hopes for that payday on Guber, there is no doubt that Giustra has put himself in the hands of one of the wiliest operators in Hollywood. □





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Deirdre McMurdy



Hype and hazards

"Namx will skyrocket in early July. They will open 14! new oil wells. Should reach a price of $1.25 shortly. Current price is .0325. Still 60 million shares outstanding, so let's buy!"

"Buy Hyal shares tomorrow. You'll be glad. This is not hype. HOT, HOT tip. Buy Hyal."

"An executive from Apple made a slip and told me Totally Hip Web software would be addressed in the nationally televised opening statements at MACWorld. Nobody but Apple and THW were supposed to know about this. one hell of a buyng opportunity."

Software. Cancer cures. Invisible lasers that eliminate noise. For denizens of chat rooms and message boards on the Internet, these are just a few of the promotions and products vying for attention—and capital. Every day, a wide range of sources, often using Net "nicks" like Warlock, Batman and Fabulous Market Babe, offer up the latest hot market tips and insider insight. And they openly tout the promise of fast, rich return on investment.

The advent of the Internet has been hailed as a revolution in shareholder democracy. For the first time, retail investors have access to detailed financial data and news announcements at the same time as company employees, analysts and brokers. That allows individuals to buy and sell shares with the same real-time information as professionals.

But at the same time, the Net is a hazard for the inexperienced investor. As access to the World Wide Web has become more widespread, the number of venues for market gossip and unfettered promotion has also soared. The Yahoo! browser service alone offers a wide range of sites, including Bobz Hot Stock Tips, Raging Bull, Bull and Bear Financial Centre and Stock Talk.

Although some enforce strict rules of "netiquette" and others have a "host" to monitor decorum, insults and obscenities are sprinkled amid the investment advice.

Of course, gossip has always played a role in moving the market. Traders have traditionally quipped that one must, "Buy on rumor, sell on news." And among short-sellers—those who sell stocks they do not yet own in the hope that they will fall in price—rumor and innuendo are essential tools to help negative prophecy fulfil itself.

However, the Internet has exaggerated that practice, providing an unprecedented and unregulated opportunity for broad-based market manipulation. Chat rooms were used to promote the shares of Bre-X Minerals Ltd. in the early days of its gold exploration program in Indonesia. As the company's fraud was revealed, those same forums spread the latest rumors about its demise. Now, lawyers representing Bre-X shareholders in various class-action suits against the company and its officers have latched on to the Net to share the latest legal developments and to recruit new clients.

Most recently, Philip Services has been the victim of message boards. The troubled Hamilton-based scrap-metal dealer eventually went online to defend itself against some of the claims, and it is also attempting to discover the real story behind the copper-trading fraud.

The Internet has provided an unprecedented opportunity for market manipulation

That quest may prove difficult, however, because Internet service providers, such as Yahoo! and America Online, are not responsible for the content they carry or the damage it may cause. Some Web sites do make an effort at self-regulation, banning false and insider information, and prohibiting impersonation, harassment and the spread of abusive material. But this is impossible to enforce. The Stock Club greets newcomers to its general forum with a warning: "This is the pit—we mean a snake pit not a trading pit."

The proliferation of these electronic gatherings poses a vexing problem for many companies, especially those already under market pressure. Experts remain divided about the best way to respond to the Internet rumor mill: while some believe that all misinformation must be publicly corrected, others hold that speculation does not deserve the dignity and implicit credibility of a response.

For now, however, it seems that hype and the Internet are inseparable. the share prices of Internet companies themselves have recently climbed to record levels because of—what else?—feverish speculation about the next major takeover or merger. And no doubt, chat-line mavens are having a field day spreading the latest word.

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Business NOTES

GM THREATENS CUTS

If the strike at two General Motors Corp. parts plants in Flint, Mich., continues, the company may decide to stop producing a number of models. On June 5, more than 9,000 workers at the two plants began striking, forcing GM to shut down most of its operation in North America. Talks were continuing, but GM is determined to wring concessions from its unions. Among the models that could be dropped are the Pontiac Firebird and the Chevrolet Camaro, which are built at a GM plant in St-Therèse, Que.

ENERGY GIANT EMERGES

TransCanada PipeLines Ltd. and Nova Corp., both of Calgary, completed a $15-billion merger, the largest ever by Canadian energy companies. Both firms operate widespread pipeline networks, including TransCanada's main line, which carries natural gas from the West to Central Canada. As part of the deal, Nova's chemical facilities will be spun off into a separate company.

COMPAQ AXES JOBS

Five months after acquiring Digital Equipment Corp. of Maynard, Mass., for $13.4 billion, Compaq Computer Corp. announced a massive restructuring. The Houston-based company, the largest maker of computers in the world, plans to cut 17,000 of 84,000 full-time workers worldwide. That includes 1,250 workers in Canada, mostly from Digital's manufacturing plant near Ottawa.

NBA SLAM-DUNKED

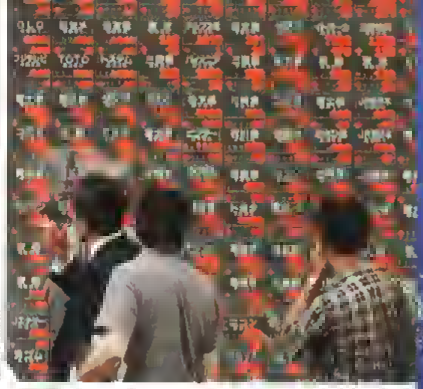
For the third time in four years, the NBA has been hit by a labor dispute that has caused it to lock out its players. Team personnel are now barred from speaking to their own players or free agents. The NBA said it had to stop operating until it could find a way to bring salaries, which siphon off 57 per cent of league revenues, into line.

MASSIVE TAX HIT

Shares in Laidlaw Inc. plunged after word escaped that a possible tax ruling could cost the transportation giant up to $735 million in unpaid taxes. A U.S. tax court ruled the Burlington, Ont., company owed $207 million in back taxes in a case involving a financing arrangement with a Dutch subsidiary. Further court reviews could cost the company the difference.

A Japanese rescue plan

In launching the world's largest corporate bailout, Japan has announced plans to pump up to $137 billion of taxpayers' money into the country's bankrupt lenders over the next two to five years. The long-awaited rescue effort, which involves six of the world's 12 biggest banks (including the once-mighty Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi), will see a government-administered "bridge bank" lend money to corporate customers of banks deemed too weak to survive on their own. Meanwhile, government-appointed auditors will sort through the books. The bad debts, now estimated to exceed $800 billion, will be turned over to collection agencies, while healthy assets will be sold to other financial institutions. Bank shareholders have been warned that their equity will be wiped out, Japanese bank managers are facing everything from bank closures to criminal prosecutions. Apart from unveiling its bailout concept, the Japanese government was thin on details—prompting international money markets to bid down the yen in Friday's trading. Japan's stock markets, however, rallied substantially in recent sessions, a development attributed to Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's decision to propose permanent tax cuts as a stimulant for the struggling Japanese economy.



Checking stock prices at a Tokyo brokerage: rally

Old Vic's new life

Sixteen years after stepping in to save London's Old Vic theatre, Toronto's Mirvish family has sold the historic property—to what appears to have been the lowest bidder. Discount retailer-turned-impresario Ed Mirvish and his son, David, accepted $8.7 million from a nonprofit theatrical trust managed by some of the biggest names in British theatre, including Sir Richard Attenborough, Anthony Hopkins and—once the sale goes through—David Mirvish. The Old Vic Theatre Trust will make the legendary stage available to nonprofit acting companies, something the British government hinted it might do should the Canadian owners not devise a similar plan. The Mirvishes, who bought the Old Vic at auction in 1982 for more than $1 million and spent almost $5 million on renovations, had received four higher offers from commercial theatre operators, including composer Andrew Lloyd Webber.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

The Canadian economy stalled in April, but many analysts believe that the halt will be temporary. According to Statistics Canada, the total output of goods and services (gross domestic product) receded by .05 per cent from the month before. The economy had rebounded in February and March from the effects of the winter ice storm in Eastern Canada. But in April, manufacturing production declined, as did transportation and business services, which includes advertising, engineering and accounting. Still, April was 3.5 per cent ahead of the same month in 1997.

In the United States, where signs indicate growth is slowing, the Federal Reserve left short-term interest rates unchanged at 5.5 per cent, the level they have been at since March, 1997.



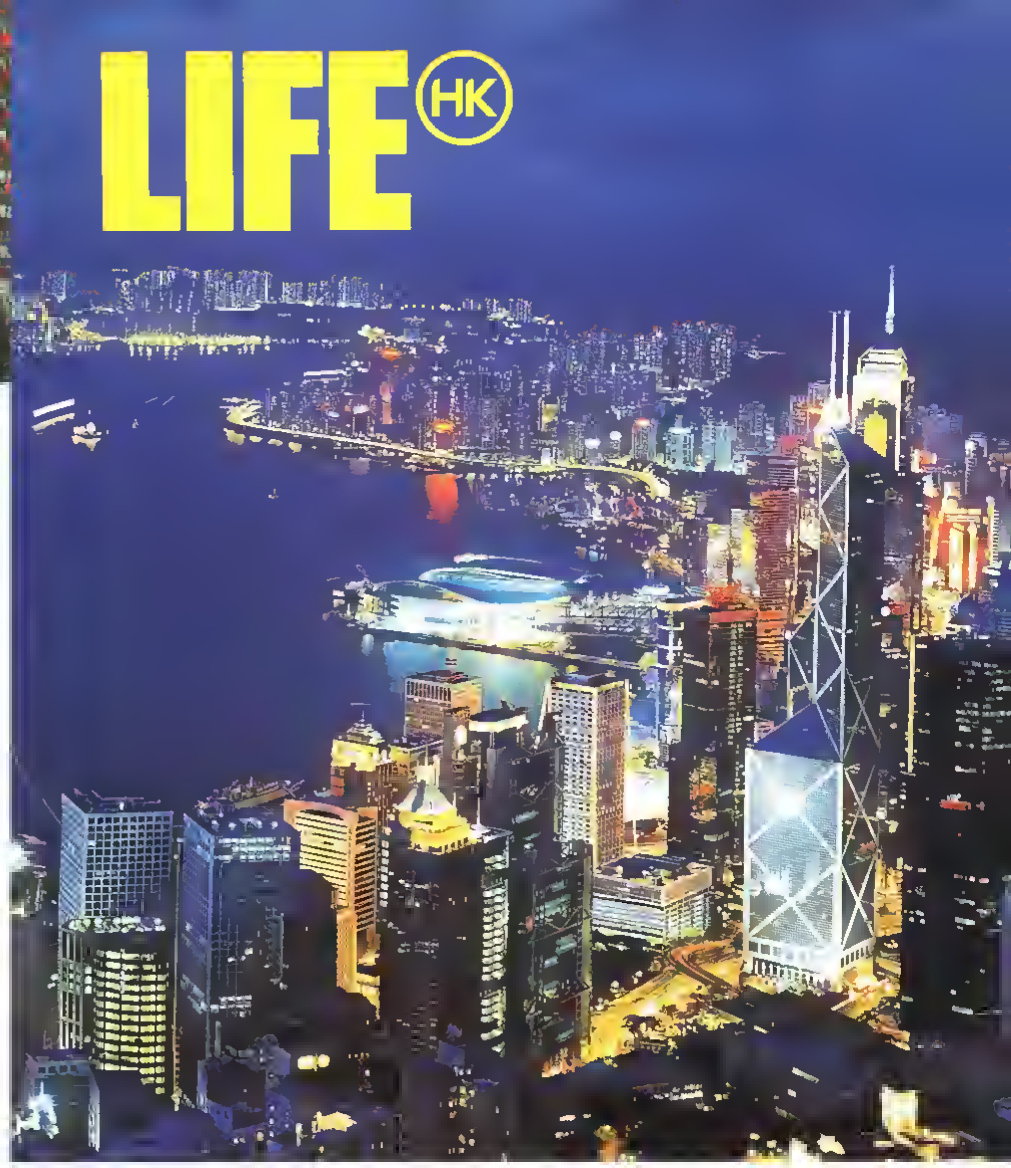
"It's choppy, but there is no convincing evidence of weakness yet—though growth will trend down in the second half of the year."

—Wood Gundy

"The Canadian economy will post the strongest growth in the G-7 this year. To be sure, the sharp decline in exports to Japan has hurt the resource sector. Even so, the private domestic economy remains robust. For the year as a whole, we should rival the 3¾ per cent growth rate posted in 1997."

—Nesbitt Burns

LIFE HK



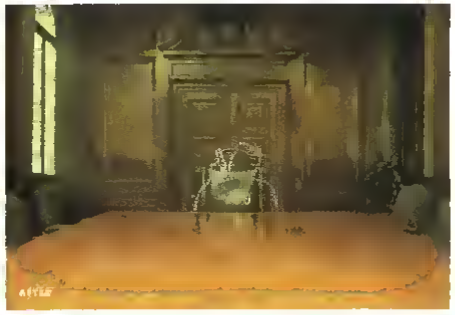
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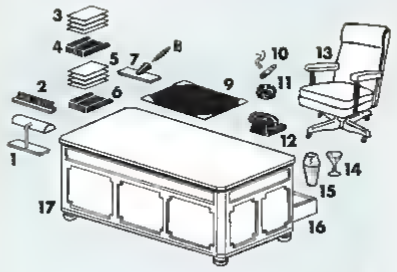
APPROXIMATE COMPLETION TIME
3 MONTHS

Ask your average wealthy and successful business person what troubles them the most, and they'd probably all give you the same answer. They just don't know how to take over a large corporation. Well, at long last, help is here. Just follow these simple steps.

STEP ONE

Okay, the first thing you're going to have to do is find a suitable target. (A Word of Caution: Before attempting any of these steps, it is essential that you have all the recommended items in the "You'll Need" box. Failure to do so could result in embarrassment amongst your peers or possible jail time.)

For acquisition purposes, insurance companies are a good bet. For that matter, so are small manufacturing companies or electronics corporations. And if you're feeling particularly energetic, there's always software companies. Have someone in mind? Good. Let's go to Step Two.



1 LAMP 2 NAME PLATE 3 PAPER 4 IN TRAY 5 PINK SLIPS 6 OUT TRAY 7 PEN HOLDER 8 PEN 9 BLOTTER 10 CIGAR 11 ASHTRAY 12 PHONE 13 CHAIR 14 MARTINI 15 MARTINI SHAKER 16 DRAWER 17 DESK

***Fig.1* You're going to want to show your recently acquired employees that you mean business. And the best place to do this is with your desk. Make sure your name-plate is well-polished, papers are stacked as high as possible, and your martini shaker is close by in case of emergency.**

STEP TWO

Now that you've selected your goal, it's time to attack. Call your broker and begin quietly buying shares in the target company. Buy small amounts at first because you don't want to draw any attention to yourself just yet.

Then in about a week or two, move to buying larger blocks. Now here's the tricky part: call up other shareholders in the target company and offer them a better price for their piece of the pie. Most will jump at the chance, however, there may be a couple of holdouts. If this is the case, send these people flowers, imported Oriental pottery, water-skis, or if all else fails, there's always large brown envelopes of cash. Once you have 10% of the company stock, Canadian disclosure rules require you to go public with your intentions. Which brings us to Step Three.

STEP THREE

Now this is where your public relations person comes in. The press is going to want to know who you are, and what you're doing. Have some 8x10 glossies of yourself shot and sent to all the major media outlets. [Good photo suggestions: a) you standing on a mountain top at sunset looking into the future, or b) you playing golf with the leader of some country.] As well, send along a bnef, but glowing portrayal of your business experience and a quote. (example: *"The Omega Corporation needs my help"* (or) *"Together (your company name here) and Jumbo Corp will forge a new direction in the business world."*)

STEP FOUR

Now that the press is on your side, introduce yourself to the old board members and the management committee.



***Fig.2* A good corporate image is very important. So proper sign placement is an absolute must. A misplaced sign suggests a lack of leadership and attention to detail. A well-placed sign, on the other hand, says you're big, strong, and own a really tall ladder.**

They're likely to be a little nervous about their future, so put things at ease with a little joke, or funny story. When you have the entire boardroom filled with laughter, and everybody relaxed and thinking that you really are a great person, announce that they're all fired. (Important: Bring in Out-Placement Consultant here.) Congratulations, you have now successfully orchestrated your very first hostile takeover.

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People

Edited by TANYA DAVIES



Eustace (left) and Kostick: two unpredictable TV cooks serve up spicy banter

Heating up the kitchen

If you crossed trash talk-show host **Jerry Springer** with culinary guru **Julia Child**, the result might be the cooking show *What's for Dinner?* The daily program on Life Network has a following of 250,000 viewers a week, who watch as much for the spicy banter between hosts **Ken Kostick** and **Mary Jo Eustace** as for the recipes.

When Kostick, 45, pitched the concept to the cable channel in 1994, he envisioned a mainstream cooking program with a single host. "I really liked Mary Jo's wacky sense of humor, so we hired her," recalls Kostick, who is also one of the show's three executive producers. "But after the network saw a tape of the two of us, they said, 'Let's try the little guy.' " During the inaugural season in 1995, the show changed into an unscripted free-for-all, in which he plays the fall guy to her unpredictable comments—most of them based on Kostick being gay. "When we started, it was so straight," says Eustace, 35, who has suggested on air that her co-host do the show in drag. "But it has gotten more and more politically incorrect, which is great." Heading into their fourth year, the couple's steady diet of sarcasm has led to cookbooks—her first and his third are both due before Christmas—cooking demonstrations across the country and even a Caribbean cruise, which they hosted for fans.

For Eustace—who is seven months pregnant with her first child with husband **Dean McDermott**, an actor—cooking comes easy. A graduate of the culinary program at George Brown College in Toronto, she operated her own catering company in that city. Kostick, meanwhile, stumbled on to cooking when he was an international modelling scout. After eating in the finest restaurants, he would try to make a simpler version of the meal at his Toronto home. "These recipes became the basis of the first season."

The duo's next step is to break into the U.S. and British television markets. "The Americans will either love it or hate it," says Eustace. "It will probably go over bigger in Britain because of all the toilet humor. We could become 'the fat lady and the gurly man.' " Only if they don't kill each other with the kitchen knives first.

Happiness is singing the blues



Charles: sold-out performances for a 67-year-old musician who can still boogie

Singer **Ray Charles** is just finishing another recording. But don't ask the music giant how many that adds up to. "That's a hard one," he says with his famous raspy voice. "I cannot even hazard a guess." No wonder. After 50 years of performing, the Georgia-born singer and piano player has made dozens of recordings, sold millions of records and won countless awards. And as fans at last week's sold-out Ottawa Bluesfest performance can attest, the 67-year-old can still boogie.

Charles, blind since age 7, began playing clubs for a dollar a night in Jacksonville, Fla., when he was 15. After his first major hit, *I Got a Woman*, in 1955, he moved to Los Angeles, eventually marrying **Della Antwine** with whom he had three children. His unmistakable vocal style—he is best-known for crooning the ballad *Georgia on My Mind*—earned him a wide cross-section of fans. "I look for music that makes me feel something inside," he says, explaining his longevity and ability to transcend the eras. "That way I don't have to follow the fads. I can just be me."

On his latest recording, to be released in October, Charles enlists some well-known help, including fellow rhythm and blues singer **Gladys Knight**. After working with most of the greats in the music industry—and a lot of late nights spent onstage—is there any chance that Charles will finally slow down? "I'm going to be one of those cats, like **Count Basie**," he says, laughing. "I'll be playing to the very end."

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Paying to play varsity sports

Universities split over athletic scholarships


Beveridge: to improve the competition

On the playing field, Canadian universities know they cannot compete with the glitz and glamor of U S institutions, where college sports are nearly a religion. But, tired of seeing the cream of high-school athletes lured south by generous sports scholarships, universities in the West and the Maritimes are banding together to up the ante at home—even if it means thinning the ranks of Canadian competitors and leaving Ontario on the sidelines. Rebuffed last month by a unified front of Ontario universities that refuse to consider any kind of sports scholarships, the proponents of change had enough clout to force the Canadian inter-university Athletic Union to rethink the whole matter of athletic awards by December. On the table: a proposal to double the value of athletic scholarships, and to divide the CIAU ranks into two tiers—those who offer awards and those who do not. That could lead to a national championship, such as college football's Vanier Cup, without Ontario participation. "We don't *want* to have to leave the CIAU," says the University of British Columbia's Kim Gordon, president of the Canada West Universities Athletic Association. "But we cannot go on being second-rate sports citizens in our own country. We just want to be able to say to first-year kids, 'Yeah, we can offer you something to stay at home, tuition maybe.'"

Last year, nearly 1,800 top Canadian athletes followed the siren call of scholarship dollars south to American universities, the lion's share being young men playing football and hockey. Some receive up to $50,000 a year for all expenses; some pay Canadian recruiters betwen $500 and $2,000 to shop them around to U S. schools. By contrast, Canadian universities—excluding Ontario—are allowed to offer a maximum of $1,500 a year in athletic scholarships, and nothing for first-year students. Most of the western schools top up their scholarships with matching grants from alumni, corporate sponsors or provincial sports bodies. But the upper limit is still only a drop in the bucket.

Not surprisingly, Canadian athletes tend to be in favor of sports scholarships. Bob Beveridge, a London, Ont., native and a 305-lb. offensive tackle for the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds, just wrapped up his five-year college career with a Vanier Cup championship last fall, a nearly completed degree in human kinetics, and about $20,000 in student debt. But Beveridge has more reasons than money for adding his voice to the growing east-west debate over the relative worth of student athletes. Next week, he is off to try out for the New England Patriots of the National Football League. At an earlier conditioning camp, he saw his U S university competition firsthand. At six feet, six inches, Beveridge has the size and will to compete. But, he says, "My techniques are horrible compared to them. If we put more money into our sports, we would keep the better athletes, we would have better programs, better coaching. Who knows," he asks, "maybe even the CFL would get better?"

At the annual meeting of the CIAU last month, the universities split right down the middle. On the table was a proposal from the West that $3,000 sports scholarships be awardable to all students, with the amount being allowed to nudge up to $4,000 for those in their senior years. The vote was 23 for, 23 against. Against were four universities from Atlantic Canada, one from Quebec and all 18 from Ontario. "If anything, Ontario is getting even more polarized against the others," notes Robert Rosehart, president of Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ont. It is not just the money he says, although he adds that Ontario has been among the hardest hit when it comes to government cutbacks. Rosehart believes there is a question of principle. Laurier boasts 20 varsity level teams, but only nine are CIAU members, including such high-profile, high-cost sports as men's hockey and football. If those nine come under competitive pressure to offer scholarships, money will inevitably come from the budgets of such non-national sports as women's field hockey. "There is a big gender-equity issue at stake here," says Rosehart. Also an academic one: student athletes at many institutions have to maintain a 75-per cent grade average, well above most U S requirements. Those standards could be eroded if pure athletic scholarships are introduced.

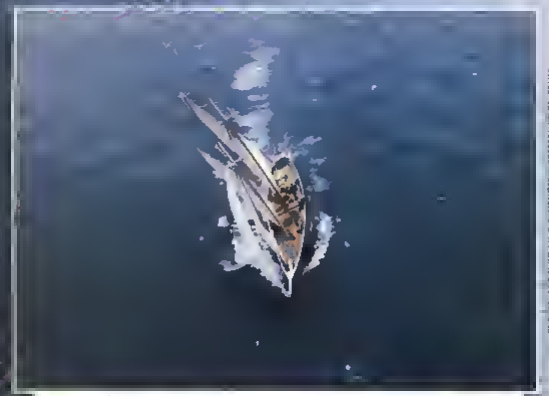
At the University of Western Ontario in London, athletics administrator Darwin Semotiuk estimates it would cost an additional $500,000—"money we don't have"—to pony up scholarships for CIAU teams. But can it afford not to? As head football coach Larry Haylor of the UWO Mustangs points out, "There are not many coaches vain enough to believe they can compete in the long run with schools that offer athletic scholarships." With the names of nearly 200 high-school players in his binder and Western's reputation as a good football school, Haylor would seem to have it made. But, he notes it does not require a lot of money to lure an athlete elsewhere. "It is the prestige of the scholarship, that sense of support that is incredibly important in the minds of today's athletes." Ontario coaches are resigned to the fact they cannot compete with the United States. But they do not want to see the best Ontario athletes leaving for other provinces at the same time.

ROBERT SHEPPARD

[AN ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT TO THE JULY 13 EDITION OF MACLEAN'S MAGAZINE]

The Confederation Bridge
one year later

In May 1997 The Honourable Diane Marleau, Minister of Public Works and Government Services, described Confederation Bridge as a "symbol of who we are as a country. All Canadians can be proud of the name. It celebrates Canada's past, Canada's present and a confident future rich in opportunity and prosperity." One year of successful operation has underlined the truth of those remarks. The Confederation Bridge represents the skills of the Canadian labour force, the expertise of Canadian engineering, and the vision that arises from public-private partnership.


Bluenose II passing under the Confederation Bridge

In the initial planning phase, the Bridge engineers consulted the Bluenose Trust. The final plan insured water passage for commercial and fishery vessels and for the principal symbol of Canada's Maritime heritage. Examine the Captain's Daily Log as the Bluenose II proceeds on her two-year tour of Canada. www.bluenose2.ns.ca

A conversation with *John Francis*



GENERAL MANAGER OF STRAIT CROSSING BRIDGE LIMITED

As General Manager John oversees all aspects of the Bridge including toll operations, traffic management, human resources, communications, Government relations and contract administration. Mr Francis served with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for twenty-six years, latterly as a Deputy Commander He has been a resident of Prince Edward Island for eleven years.

You have overseen the operations of The Confederation Bridge for more than one year What are your principal observations?

First I share an enormous sense of gratification with all those who worked on the planning and construction of the Bridge It effectively does what it was built to do – facilitate efficient and continuous transit between Prince Edward Island and the mainland.

Has traffic flow increased in the past year?

Yes, our figures show increases from the former service in both commercial and passenger traffic. This was anticipated due to the easier passage and more efficient scheduling by the users.

How is traffic distributed through the week?

Traffic is heaviest on the weekends, especially on Friday evenings, Saturday mornings and Sunday evenings One interesting pattern is the large volume of late-night traffic. It is evident that the Bridge enables Islanders to return home late at night rather than extend their stay on the mainland.

Is there late-night commercial traffic?

Indeed there is. The Bridge makes it possible to have goods shipped overnight and on the shelves by the early morning. This has been a real benefit to both suppliers and retailers

What are some of the characteristics of bridge traffic?

We have identified a great volume of same-day traffic "day-trippers." Travellers are not constrained by ferry schedules and physical inconvenience We know of many senior citizens and disabled citizens who have visited the Island for the first time. The Bridge has made that unforgettable experience a possibility And, of course, golfers are another group that has benefited by quick and predictable passage

The Bridge opened in May 1997, but people thought that its real test would come in the winter What was life like between Borden and Cape Jourimain in January and February?

It was wintry! It appears that the winds in both these months were well above the averages for the preceding thirty years We were fully prepared for road maintenance and the high winds but surprised at the extended periods of high winds. From our actual experience we can hopefully modify our procedures, keeping in mind the principle of not compromising safety

Did you have to close due to high winds?

No, the Bridge was never closed Passenger cars and emergency vehicles continued to cross On several occasions we had to impose speed restrictions and less often we had to bar vehicles over a certain height

That must have caused a problem for truckers?

Yes, but most understood the safety problems and trusted that we were doing everything possible to help them schedule trips efficiently One of our services was to provide over fifty trucking firms with forty-eight hour weather reports for the Strait area. Of course, forecasts are just that and wind might be even harder to predict than precipitation. And no meteorologist can predict the timing of gusts

What ongoing role does Strait Crossing play in the social and economic life of Prince Edward Island?

Well, in our operations phase we are no longer the major player we were during the construction phase. This is no longer a multi-million dollar project with thousands of employees Our operations staff now numbers around forty Yet we have sustained our community involvement through alliances with Sport PEI and the provinces high schools. We also look forward to joint ventures in higher education with both the University of Prince Edward Island and the Holland College.

In your opinion has the bridge changed "the Island way of life?"

I don't know if "the Island way of life" has changed because of the bridge, but I doubt it very much The Island way of life is dependent on the people and what they stand for There may be some adjustments, but I believe the people of Prince Edward Island will keep their identity their approach to life and consequently their Island way of life."

Please visit our website:
www.confederationbridge.com



[AN ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT TO MACLEAN'S MAGAZINE]

For whom the *bridge tolls...*

IT'S PAY AS YOU GO – WITH PLENTY OF OPTIONS







Royal Bank officials Patt MacEachern *Regional Sales Manager for Card Services* Mary MacInnis *Account Manager Charlottetown*, and Ken Gillis *Area Manager PEI* inspect toll operations

"Travel on *your* schedule" is the marketing slogan for Confederation Bridge It draws a comparison to the ferries that depart only at specific times The slogan was taken to heart when coming up with the software integration for payment processing. If you can drive across anytime you like, then you should be able to pay any way you like too

For more than a decade, Royal Bank has led the way in electronic payment processing, offering unique solutions for different environments: first with self-serve *Interac** Direct Payment at the gas pumps, in movie theatres and in bus depots. Linking a Royal Bank card payment application to Confederation Bridge was a natural fit.

At each of the six staffed toll booths, as well as the self service lane, drivers have the choice of how to pay for their 13 km journey from Prince Edward Island to New Brunswick. The four major credit cards, a debit card or cash are all accepted.

"Tourists especially find it convenient," explains John Francis, general manager of Strait Crossing Bridge Limited, the company that operates Confederation Bridge. He adds with a laugh "They'll have the option to use their cards when they leave if they have spent all their cash on the island during their visit."

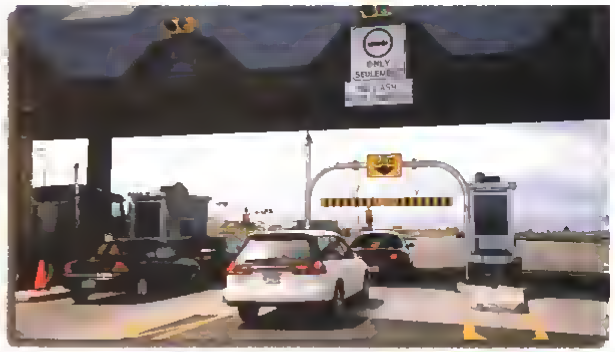
Interestingly enough, the self-serve lane tends to be used less than the booths According to one toll collector, people prefer the "human" touch – and they like to talk as they pay the $35 50 round-trip fee for a passenger car Mainly though they ask questions of the collectors, who've heard it all now after just one year One of the more popular queries from the frugal My car's really small, can I pay the same as a motorcycle? Or how about this Is the Bridge open 24 hours? It just so happens that it is Another frequently asked question What's the weather like on the other side? Visitors show their concern for the toll collectors too. Over and over they're asked: Do you have air-conditioning in that booth?

"Everyone seems pleased with the variety of payment methods," says Kris Gaudet, one of the toll collectors. Of course, flexibility was the goal when Royal Bank set out to meet the needs of thousands of travellers – both commercial and pleasure-seeking – who would be using Confederation Bridge.

"For us, it was an interesting challenge," points out Frank Moore, Royal Bank's vice-president of Merchant Point-of-Sale "I know consumers take it for granted, but a lot goes on behind the scenes to make these electronic transactions quick and convenient."

At Strait Crossing Bridge Limited, having the right payment system in place is a contributing factor to success. "From our perspective," says John Francis, "everything has worked out just the way it was designed We are pleased."

Visit our website: www.royalbank.com



ROYAL BANK

* Royal Bank of Canada licensee of trademark

A picture.



A thousand words.

We've all heard the expression A picture is worth a thousand words And Prince Edward Island, a land lush with **REDS**, **GREENS**, and **BLUES**, is an island of thousand-word stories Take the picture on the left, for example. A beautiful fall morning, and with the **sun** warm on their face, a couple heads out for a tour of the countryside. The **red soil** pops and rumbles under the bike tires as they glide towards the **blue** sparkling horizon that is the **Northumberland Strait**. They don't really know how far it is, and quite frankly, they really don't care After they get there, they may stop for a picnic, a stroll in the surf, a trail promising **new adventures**, they may keep going, who knows? This is **Prince Edward Island** The nearest wrist watch is a million miles away The wind is little more than a soft hush – barely audible – yet it's enough to entice the **tall green grass** to dance playfully for their new **biking** visitors. Beyond the wind and tires, there's another noise It's the sound of stress escaping the body with every quiet breath and **fresh Island air** pouring into the lungs to replace it. Air replacing scepticism with hope, the weight of responsibility with a child's need to play Yup, this is an amazing picture I mean that's only two hundred and fifty five words, and I'm just getting started A thousand words? I could go on for days, honest I've done it before. Once, in grade four, I got caught throwing snowballs at recess, well it wasn't AT recess, it was AT Lenny Erler – it was DURING recess – and I had to write a two thousand word essay on the history of the overhand throw Did you know the overhand throw is not a natural movement? It's true. Cavemen, during the hunt, would lob rocks at their prey The overhand motion was developed to throw the spear, which made man a more efficient hunter and ensured his survival for years to come. After all, what are the odds of felling a deer with a lobbed rock anyway? I don't know if they even had deer back then, but they did have Woolly mammoths Think one of those beasts would drop if you hit them with an under-hander? Not likely, unless you hit them right on the temple, if Woolly mammoths even have temples The point is, man came up with the concept of the overhand throw, but the human body never adapted to compensate for the strain it puts on the shoulder. So what happens? A simple rotator cuff injury and the poor caveman is out of the hunting business, he has to turn in his spear for a bunch of rocks We still have rotator cuff injuries today, That's what happened to Mark 'The Bird' Fydrich. One day, the most promising pitcher in the American league, the next day, he's on a tractor, throwing hay underhand Mark threw REALLY hard I wonder how he would have done against a Woolly mammoth. I bet he would have done really well You see, Mark's best pitch was his slider, and I'd have to guess that very few Woolly mammoths would have ever seen a slider. They would have probably been way out in front of it And the thing is, still fewer Woolly mammoths would have ever gone up against a left hander Yup, Mark would have done really well But back to the thousand-word picture There's just so much to say But first, did I mention how the couple chose Prince Edward Island – that's Prince Edward Island, Canada – in the first place? They called **Mary** at our vacation line, at **1-888-PEI PLAY**. It's easy to remember, eh? **1-888-PEI PLAY** is what we in the business call a 'vanity number', meaning the digits have corresponding letters to help you remember the number Of course, remembering is one thing, dialing is another. It's just not possible to dial a letter, you have to dial a number. So when you actually start dialing us, you'll have to dial ONE, EIGHT, EIGHT, EIGHT, SEVEN, THREE, FOUR, SEVEN, FIVE, TWO, NINE. If this was radio, we'd mention the number a couple of times so you'd be sure and get it So just to be sure, the number is ONE, EIGHT, EIGHT, EIGHT, SEVEN, THREE, FOUR, SEVEN, FIVE, TWO, NINE So why did the couple call 1-888-PEI PLAY? They got a **FREE vacation kit** that includes a **FREE vacation guide**, and **$100 dollars of FREE coupons** that saved them big time when they came here FREE is still a powerful word in advertising, did you know that? People say they don't believe FREE when they see FREE, but it turns out they tend to read an ad if it has FREE in it And when the FREE stuff is really good – and not just FREE – they tend to pick up the phone. But it's not just about the FREE stuff you can get if you call the number. The vacation guide, which also happens to be FREE, is chocked full of great things to do and great places to stay When you get it, you'll see why many people actually prefer the fall on Prince Edward Island. They're FREE (that's a different kind of FREE) to take in all the great Island activities without the crowds of summer. **Golfing** at one of our many beautiful courses, **Antiquing**, exploring the unique world of Prince Edward Islands' **arts and crafts community**, **lively theatre** and dining at some of the **best restaurants** in the Maritimes are all just hitting their stride come fall. And many can be enjoyed at a fraction of the summer rates Some are even **FREE**, like **biking or hiking** the wonderful **Confederation Trail**, hundreds of kilometres of spectacular trails that criss-cross the island. A trail very much like the one pictured on the left side of this page. The picture, now officially proven to be worth a thousand words

Prince Edward Island
TOURISM



PHOTOGRAPHY BY IAN CALLIS FOR MACLEAN'S

Lifestyles

Refuge from the rat race

Wolfville's new boom-town status

BY BRIAN BERGMAN

Pearce at Acton's: one of many staking out careers in the heart of the Annapolis Valley

In the beady boom years of the 1980s, one of *the* places to eat and be seen was Fenton's, a posh restaurant in downtown Toronto that boasted $900 bottles of wine and a menu that made the city's restaurant critics swoon. But with the stock market crash of 1987, many of Fenton's chi-chi clientele lost their appetite for the good life, leaving the restaurant's owners, Nicholas Pearce and David Barette, to ponder their future in an era of diminished expectations. Drawn by the prospect of clean air, open spares and cheap land, the pair eventually relocated to Nova Scotia's verdant Annapolis Valley, where they opened a new establishment, Acton's Grill & Cafe, in Wolfville. Under the guidance of Werner Bassen, the chef who put the sizzle into Fenton's, Acton's quickly became a magnet for fine-food lovers across the province. The secret ingredient? "People know what is good when they taste it," said Pearce in a recent interview at the lovingly refurbished farmhouse near Wolfville that he shares with Barette. "And it is easier to get the word around in a rural area like this."

Acton's is no Fenton's—patrons do not feast on caviar and truffles, and the most expensive item on the wine list is a $60 Chablis. But it is an example of how Wolfville, a community of 4,000 located one hour's drive north of Halifax, manages to blend small-town charm with a bit of urban panache. Home to Acadia University (the town's population doubles during the academic year) and the critically acclaimed Atlantic Theatre Festival, Wolfville offers cultural and recreational opportunities that most Canadian towns of a similar size can only dream of. Unlike many rural Maritime communities, fading into obscurity, Wolfville has seen a recent influx of both retirees and younger professionals seeking an alternative to big-city life. Between 1991 and 1996, the town's population actually increased by 10.3 per cent.

Now, civic boosters are looking for new opportunities, establishing a so-called technology innovation centre aimed at helping knowledge-based businesses blossom. Jointly promoted by the town, regional development agencies and Acadia University, the innovation centre flows in part from the so-called Acadia Advantage program. Since 1996, every first-year student has been issued identical laptop computers and a sophisticated array of software. The computers have become an integral teaching tool and their influence has spread well beyond the campus: an estimated 30 per cent of Wolfville residences are wired to the Internet, roughly double the national average. The innovation centre—scheduled to open within 18 months—is designed to capitalize on that computer literacy by providing young entrepreneurs with the equipment, infrastructure and expertise to develop their business ideas alongside more established high-tech companies. It is also an attempt to stem the current brain drain of Acadia graduates. "This is the most powerful thing we can think of to convince our young people to stay," says Richard Cote, the Wolfville-based consultant spearheading the planning phase of the project.

In fact, Wolfville aspires to become an essential link on the information highway. The rationale: new technologies are allowing businesses and entrepreneurs to locate wherever they please, so why not settle in a town that offers a moderate climate, plus easy access to Atlantic Canada's largest city and the spectacularly rugged coastline of the Bay of Fundy? Cote is something of a walking advertisement for such an option. A former vice-president of Atomic Energy Canada, the Ottawa native moved with his family to Nova Scotia a decade ago with the itch to start his own business. He now runs the successful Novatech Consultants Ltd. from his home on Wolfville's Main Street. "What this place offers me is a terrific quality of life along with the ability to work at the things I want to," he says.

In making the move to Wolfville, Cole is in good company. Architects, theatre administrators and other urban refugees have recently arrived, determined to stake out careers in a small-town setting. Among them is Doug Lutz, 45, who resigned his partnership in a major law firm in Calgary last year, heading eastward in search of the good life. Lutz and his wife, Kathie Manko, 38, who is also a lawyer, were looking for a place where their four-year-old daughter, Rachel, could grow up in a close-knit community. Says Lutz, who now runs a three-person law practice in Wolfville as well as working two days a week for a civil litigation firm in Halifax, "We were looking for a place where, as they used to say on *Cheers*, 'everybody knows your name.'"

Wolfville fits the bill. It is a community bereft of even such minor urban inconveniences as traffic lights and parking meters, and where the absence of home postal delivery means the Main Street post office continues to be a gathering spot. That suits Atlantic Theatre Festival artistic director Michael Bawtree just fine. "I like being able to meet the mayor on the steps of the post office and find out what's going on," says Bawtree, who was raised in rural England and has spent much of his life in such small Canadian theatre centres. "I don't subscribe to the idea we have all basically become city people. I still think small-town life is something to aspire to."

Almost everyone in Wolfville cites the 160-year-old Acadia University as a crucial ingredient in the quality of life. With an annual budget of nearly $50 million and more than 500 direct employees, it is also key to Wolfville's prosperity. That is why the controversy swirling around Acadia president Kelvin Ogilvie this spring was so keenly felt. The Acadia University Faculty Association, describing Ogilvie as autocratic, passed a motion of non-confidence in the president. The students' union also called for a comprehensive review of his leadership. At a meeting on May 9, Acadia's board of governors declined to deal with either motion—much to the chagrin of some faculty representatives who said they could no longer deal with the president.

Ogilvie has been very tight-lipped publicly about the challenge to his leadership. He does allow, however, that "some very hurtful things were said," adding that he found them harder to understand given his deep roots in the area. Born in the village of Summerville, 40 km east of Wolfville, and a graduate of Acadia, Ogilvie returned home in 1987 after a distinguished career as a research biochemist at the University of Manitoba and Montreal's McGill University. While he faces the prospect of some stormy days ahead at Acadia's helm, Ogilvie can take comfort in his surroundings. From his house overlooking the Bay of Fundy, he now has a view of the waters that his seafaring ancestors sailed over 200 years ago. "It's an environment that I love to look at, to be part of," he says. In that, at least, he is far from alone. □



Bawtree (right) with actor Emily Taylor: destination point for classical theatre buffs

BRIGHTS LIGHTS, BIGGER DREAMS

Soon after arriving in Wolfville in 1990 to take over as director of the drama program at Acadia University, Michael Bawtree began to sense something was missing from the picturesque community. The Australian-born, British-raised director and writer had previously worked at the Stratford Festival, the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., and the Banff Festival of the Arts. As Bawtree puts it: "I was very used to the idea of a small town that was quite close to a large city but far enough away to be distinct—and that offered a summer festival." Wolfville fit the template perfectly and by 1995, Bawtree had spearheaded the launching of the Atlantic Theatre Festival, an annual stage experience that is quickly turning the town into a destination point for classical theatre buffs.

By enlisting the services of such internationally renowned directors as Michael Langham and Douglas Campbell, Bawtree quickly established the festival's artistic credentials as a first-rate venue for classical plays ranging from Shakespeare to Shaw. But Bawtree, who serves as the festival's artistic director, says it is the community spirit of small-town Nova Scotia that deserves the most credit for turning his dream into reality. At the outset, Acadia University donated a vacant hockey rink which, with the help of a $2.2-million municipal infrastructure grant, was ingeniously converted into the current theatre—complete with a thrust stage jutting out into the audience as in the days of Shakespeare. Meanwhile, 250 volunteers—one of every 15 residents in Wolfville—serve as ushers, cater receptions and ferry visiting actors and stagehands to and from the airport.

Now, the festival is giving something back to the town. A survey of 591 festival patrons last year showed that, of those who travelled more than an hour to attend, 33 per cent stayed at least one night in Wolfville, 84 per cent dined in local restaurants and 53 per cent went shopping. The direct economic impact to the community: about $4 million. Bawtree finds that statistic particularly heartening given that roughly a third of the audience comes from neighboring rural communities of the Annapolis Valley, another third are from Halifax, and the remainder from further afield. "We are getting people from all walks of life, including many who are seeing Shakespeare for the first time in their lives," says Bawtree. "That's great and we'd like more of it. If there's one thing I can't stand it's elitist theatre designed for the rich middle class."

For all of that, trying to run a Stratford-style theatre festival in the sparsely populated Maritimes remains a daunting challenge. Last year, to cut costs, Bawtree opted to forgo staging any Shakespeare plays because of the larger cast sizes such productions require. That decision drew a fair amount of flak, and contributed to an 15 per-cent decline in attendance. This year, with the mid-June opening of *Othello*, the bard is back. Bawtree is now looking at ways to expand the festival's appeal—including this summer's distinguished writers series featuring Mavis Gallant and Farley Mowat—while living within his comparatively modest $2.1-million annual budget. "It continues to be tough," he says. But in its own quiet way, the Atlantic festival has put Wolfville on Canada's theatrical map.

B.B. *in Wolfville*

AIDS: good news and bad

While sophisticated drug therapies are reducing the number of AIDS deaths in North America and other industrialized countries, the epidemic is raging out of control in regions of the world where few victims can afford the costly treatments, a senior United Nations official told an international conference in Geneva. Peter Piot, head of the UN AIDS program, said that fully a quarter of the population in the African nations of Botswana and Zimbabwe was infected by HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, as well three million people in South Africa and four million people in India are infected. According to UN estimates, about 12 million people have died of AIDS since the early 1980s, 31 million are infected and 16,000 more people contract the virus daily. Experts told the conference that efforts to develop vaccines capable of preventing or controlling HIV infection had so far come to nothing. The meeting, attended by more than 12,000 scientists, physicians, AIDS officials and journalists, was the first since the 1996 Vancouver conference. In other conference news:



In Geneva, Maria Infante shows the 35 pills she takes daily to control HIV

PHOTO: CA/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/AP

About 50 Canadian AIDS activists, doctors and researchers wearing skull masks and festooned in red tape staged a protest in front of a Health Canada booth at the Geneva conference centre to protest the slow pace of drug approval by Ottawa's health protection branch. Toronto lawyer Louise Binder, an AIDS activist and co-chairman of the Canadian Treatment Advocates Council, said that Ottawa's secretive and glacially slow system had delayed approval of five new AIDS drugs that have been in use in the United States and other countries for between six months and two years. Dr. Mark Wainberg, a researcher at Montreal's McGill University and president of the Swedish-based International AIDS Society, called the approval system "an inefficient machine hampered by bureaucratic bungling, a disgrace for a developed nation."

Several new drug-resistant strains of HIV have been identified that could prove impossible to treat, doctors from the United States and Switzerland reported. Some strains of the AIDS virus have long been resistant to older drugs such as AZT. But doctors from California said that they treated a man infected by a strain of HIV that is resistant to four protease inhibitors—the drugs that have revolutionized AIDS treatment over the past two years—as well as two older drugs. Swiss physicians said they also had encountered several strains of highly drug-resistant HIV. Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the U.S. National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases, told the conference that discovery of the new strains "is a wake-up call to people who assume that since we have adequate therapy, if they get infected they will be easily treated."

Tracking a gene

In a finding that could eventually lead to new treatments, University of Manitoba researchers have located a mutant gene responsible for a form of muscular dystrophy that gradually kills muscle cells in the victim's shoulders and hips. Reporting in the *American Journal of Human Genetics*, Dr. Klaus Wrogemann and Dr. Cheryl Greenberg said that the flawed gene affected about 40 members of Manitoba Hutterite communities, but may not be restricted to those families. There are about 30 different types of muscular dystrophy, a disease that affects an estimated 50,000 Canadians. "Once we know what this gene does," said Wrogemann, "there is always a chance we can interfere with the process and prevent cells from dying."

Hope for the bald

For the first time, a drug that can help many balding men regrow at least some of their missing hair is available in Canada. According to Kirkland, Que.-based Merck Frosst Canada Inc., Propecia works for about two-thirds of men afflicted by male-pattern baldness, which can begin eroding the hairline in men in their 20s and eventually affects about 70 per cent of Canadian men. Dr. Jerry Shapiro, director of a hair research and treatment centre at the University of British Columbia, said that in clinical trials of the drug, about six per cent of the men tested experienced "dense" regrowth of their hair, while about 60 per cent had mild to moderate regrowth. The pill has to be taken daily, at a cost of about $1.50 each; if discontinued, hair loss will return. Merck Frosst officials said the pill is largely free of side-effects, but noted that fewer than two per cent of the men tested experienced a loss of sexual desire and a decrease in semen production.



James: a sassy, sexy mix of rhythm and blues

JAMIE JAMES/FOR MACLEAN'S

In the swing of things

BY CHRIS WOOD

It's a mild June evening, the last night of the Vancouver Jazz festival and the Vogue Theatre on Granville Street is hopping to the hot sound of swing. On stage, seven musicians pump out a joyful, brassy beat with an energy out of proportion to their numbers or their name, the Little Big Band. Then Colin James steps in front of the microphone, lays his fingers to his electric guitar, and the night really takes off. Driving blues punch home heartbreak lyrics of lust and loss. Rhythm and blues jive with so much juice a person could almost believe saddle shoes really are about to become the hippest new fashion since lip-piercing. And then there is James's astonishing guitar: a growl so gutter-low, intense and sexual it could be a lover talking. In a rare remark to the audience, James grins and announces, "I want to say 'Hi' to my Grandma, who's here tonight."

At 33, James has been around long enough to appreciate longevity—and family. James burst onto the Canadian music scene in 1987 as a guitarist with blues proclivities but the vocal range to break into pop. His first three albums went platinum—each selling more than 100,000 copies in Canada—and earned him three Juno Awards. His next three albums sold less well in Canada, and a flurry of interest from U.S. critics failed to spark sales south of the border. Now, with *Colin James and the Little Big Band II* let loose in Canada two weeks ago, the versatile musician is betting on a new love affair among twenty- and thirtysomethings with martinis, cigars and the big, brassy beat of swing and jive bands of the 1940s and '50s. The craze has shaken the dust off Duke Ellington and Cab Calloway tracks and brought new groups like Big Bad Voodoo Daddy to the U.S. charts. There should be plenty of appetite for James's sassy mix of swing, Rand Band silk-on-steel guitar. In fact, his 19-date, cross-country tour, winding up this week in Ontario, was a sellout. "We're coming out of an era when people were negative, nihilistic and cynical," says James, who believes that, increasingly, audiences "just want to have a good time."

Guitarist Colin James makes the joint jump

James was raised to be anything but a cynic. Born in Regina to Quaker parents, both of whom were social workers, young Colin Munn (he took the stage name James in the early 1980s) grew up listening to Joan Baez and pre-electric Bob Dylan. But his parents' attendance at jazz and folk festivals opened his ears to the likes of Sonny Terry and Brownie McGee and the delta blues of Muddy Waters. By the age of 16, he says, "I knew I wanted to do this for a living. I was wasting my time going to school." So, after flunking music in Grade 9, he quit. He left home with a new guitar (a gift from his mother) to chase the business the old-fashioned way. He paid dues in bars, cafes and, occasionally, on street corners in Winnipeg, Vancouver and Montreal, moving furniture and laying roofs when necessary to pay the rent.

His break came in 1984 when the late Texas blues guitarist Stevie Ray Vaughan fired his opening act the day before a show in Saskatoon. The promoter phoned James—who was 18 and broke. "He asked if I had a band. I lied and said, 'Yes.'" James pulled together backup musicians and played the date—which led to a friendship with Vaughan and several more gigs in Canada and the United States. In 1988, his first album, a pop-rock-blues blend titled *Colin James* went platinum. So did a second pop-tinged set, *Sudden Stop*, in 1990, as well as a first foray into swing, *Colin James and the Little Big Band*, released in 1993.

Success has brought James the taste of the good life. He lives in Lions Bay—around the corner from Canada's highest-priced real-estate in West Vancouver—with a view of Howe Sound and a recording studio in his basement. He and his wife, Heather (the two met as childhood friends through the Quakers), have a three-year-old daughter and an infant boy, born last week. James's priorities now include his family and fly-fishing in the B.C. interior.

Then again, he appreciates the fickle nature of the music business. "It will paint you a saint and run you down just as quick," he observes. It is a perspective reinforced by James's research into performers of the past to find material new to contemporary ears. The musicians he admires most are those who, like Van Morrison, have managed to keep their creativity fresh through changing eras. "In this business, staying alive is everything."

It's small wonder that James is returning to a brand of music whose high-energy appeal is attracting a new wave of listeners. "I'm not a particularly religious guy," the lapsed Quaker says. "For me, music is my religion. You draw it from your heart." That is one good explanation for the heavenly sounds that come from his guitar. □

Native connection

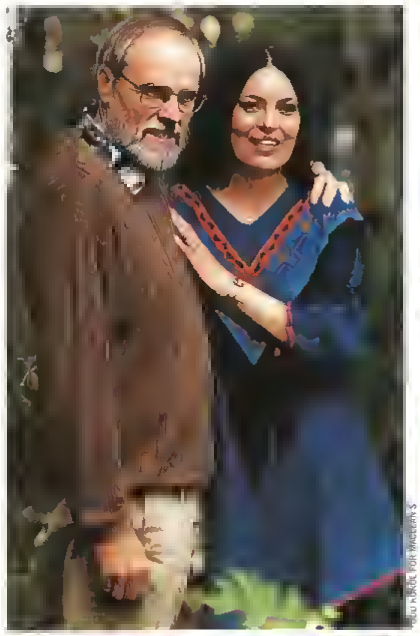
A writer and convicted murderer tells her story

On the night of Sept. 14, 1989, Leonard Charles Skwarok was sexually assaulted and murdered in the basement of a house in Wetaskiwin, in central Alberta. Four people were convicted for their involvement in the attack. But only one of them, Yvonne Johnson, was found guilty of first-degree murder with no eligibility for parole for 25 years. *Stolen Life: The Journey of a Cree Woman* (Knopf Canada, $34.95) is her story. Much of the book co-written with Governor General's Award-winning author Rudy Wiebe, is about the terrible forces that shaped Johnson. And *Stolen Life* is largely a product of her efforts to move beyond the violence of that night and all the suffering that came before it. "To me, writing this book will release long hidden fears, dreams, hurts, love, pain," she wrote as she awaited trial. "I'm doing this also in hopes of dealing with things that I never did before. Somehow maybe figure out some answers."

Stolen Life is a raw book, full of anguish and abuse. It is not an easy read. But it is an important document, and a considerable writing accomplishment. It also seems to be a plea for understanding—of 36-year-old Johnson, but also of others overwhelmed by terrible life burdens. Wiebe, author of several short-story collections and eight novels, tells bits of the story in his own words and distils his own research. He analyzes the evidence of Johnson's role in Skwarok's killing, suggesting that she deserved a lesser charge. He quotes renowned Toronto criminal lawyer Clayton Ruby calling the Alberta Court of Appeal's 1993 decision to reject Johnson's appeal "an outrageous miscarriage of justice." But mostly Wiebe excerpts Johnson's own rich, colorful writing in numerous letters and 17 prison notebooks. And he quotes from their conversations over more than five years of collaboration, weaving the strands of her tortured story into a careful chronology.

It was Wiebe's novel *The Temptations of Big Bear*, about the Plains Cree chief who was Johnson's great-great-grandfather, that prompted her to write Wiebe from prison with her story. She was born in Montana, into "the hardworking world of a miner's family," the sixth of seven children—her mother a Cree from Saskatchewan, her father a former U.S. marine of Norwegian ancestry. As a child, she suffered taunts about her race and disability. Afflicted with a cleft lip and palate, she was unable to speak clearly before undergoing years of painful surgery.

Johnson writes of being sexually abused as a child, of memories rekindled by more recent rapes. "I'm having these terrible—not nightmares . . . sort of pictures," she recalls. She was 2 or 3 when she was first raped, Johnson writes. She describes several terrifying, gut-wrenching scenes, sometimes identifying her abusers, other times recalling only snapshots—a rip in a T-shirt, horrible pain.



Wiebe (left), Johnson: a tale of violence, abuse and healing

Johnson recounts her numerous suicide attempts, as well as efforts to turn her life around. And she writes lovingly of her three children, who are now in foster care. Her two youngest are the children of her husband, Dwayne Wenger, who was convicted of second-degree murder in Skwarok's death. Her eldest is from a previous relationship. But even the joys of motherhood could not erase her past. She went out drinking again after her last baby was born, and when she was drunk, she got into fights. "People had reason to fear me," she concedes. "Except my kids."

Johnson did not testify at her own trial, and it was several years into their collaboration before Wiebe heard her full version of Skwarok's death. The details are chilling. Johnson describes how she and the others accused Skwarok of being a child molester. She admits that she hit him and twice pulled for a few seconds on a cord around his neck. She says she also spread his legs before someone else sexually assaulted him with a table leg. But she describes others delivering most of the beating. Johnson seems sincere in her regret, yet it is impossible to ignore the brutality of the attack.

But that is part of what makes *Stolen Life* so wrenching. "More and more," Wiebe said in a recent interview, "the question in my mind became, 'How could a woman as tender and caring and considerate as she is—as I got to know her—have been involved in such a terrible murder?'" Wiebe argues that her story illustrates how the horrors some children endure can influence their adult lives. "This simple [idea], you commit a crime, you're responsible for it, out you go—this is not justice," Wiebe insists. "We have to understand where this person comes from."

Wiebe also speaks of the blight of systemic poverty and the legacy of Big Bear's encounters with white society. Johnson's life "is a continuing part of that story, of what has happened to native people in our country," he contends. "It's something that we as whites better recognize."

Wiebe is hopeful *Stolen Life* will reawaken interest in Johnson's case. But Johnson herself insists that she has no expectations. In an interview with *Maclean's* from the minimum security Okimaw Ohci Healing Lodge in Saskatchewan, where she is serving her sentence, Johnson said that she sees herself "kind of beyond help—I can only help myself. But there's a lot of people out there struggling. Is anybody going to help them?"

Johnson will be eligible for parole in 2014. For now she is seeking answers in native spirituality and praying for Skwarok. "I beg he forgives us all," she writes. Her story may not ultimately sway the justice system. But it may help Yvonne Johnson heal. And it will surely provide insight into the troubled wellsprings of violent lives.

MARY NEMETH

On the Wilde side

There is a famous photograph of Oscar Wilde and his lover, Lord Alfred Douglas, taken in Naples in 1897. Sitting behind a littered table, the middle-aged playwright has the pouched, melancholy look of a walrus at bay. His health is bad. In another three years, he will be dead. Twenty-seven-year old Lord Alfred, known as "Bosie," stands possessively beside him, looking like a petulant schoolboy. The picture summarizes Wilde's period of European exile that followed his tragic conviction and two-year imprisonment for gross indecency, a term that under English law then included all forms of homosexual lovemaking. Wilde, who at the time of his prosecution had been at the pinnacle of his career—two hit plays were on the boards in London, including his masterpiece *The Importance of Being Earnest*—spent the final four years of his life in poverty, his reputation in tatters.

Since then, Wilde's fortunes have steadily revived, to the point where his story has now entered the popular imagination. Currently, he is the subject of two major stage plays and a feature film, all of them purporting to shed new light on his downfall. No doubt, the man who once wrote that the only thing worse than being talked about was not being talked about, would have enjoyed the attention. He might also have been amused by the various versions of himself now parading in the public eye. In the British film *Wilde*, directed by Brian Gilbert, the Irish born writer is idealized as Bosie's saintly, long-suffering lover. In the courtroom drama *Gross Indecency*—a Toronto production of the off-Broadway hit runs until Sept. 5—New York City writer and director Moises Kaufman portrays Wilde as a very public, spirited declaimer of his own beliefs about life and art. And British playwright David Hare's *The Judas Kiss* (now running in New York with Liam Neeson in the lead) shows a sadder, more private Wilde, driven by a deep current of fatalism.





Paul Miller in Gross Indecency, Wilde (inset): two plays and a movie about his tragic downfall

Wilde's resurgent popularity may have something to do with the approach of the 100th anniversary of his death in 2000. More important, he is also emerging, particularly in the gay community, as an early hero of the battle for sexual liberation. This is a delicate point, however, since in the courtroom Wilde repeatedly tried to cover up his own homosexuality. Wilde has become an icon of the artist as outsider and rebel as well, bat tling middle-class materialism and bad taste. When he defiantly declared that "all art is quite useless," he was in fact praising its special separateness from society's obsession with getting and spending. Certainly, this is Kaufman's view. "Victorian society—the Industrial Revolution—was directed towards building factories and making England into a great power," says the Venezuelan-born playwright. "Wilde was advocating something completely different: a life of introspection and development of the human spirit, a life in which art was more important than buying things."

Of course, people bought tickets to Wilde's plays and made him rich, so any argument about his anti-materialism has its limits. The film *Wilde* brilliantly conveys how thoroughly the Irish outsider had adopted the luxurious lifestyle of the English upper classes. It is also notable for the sensitive performance of Stephen Fry, the tall, fleshy actor who looks startlingly like Wilde, and who creates a much softer portrait of the man than the hard glitter of his own writing suggests. As well, the film offers many vivid scenes of male lovemaking—something that would have seemed impossible just a few years ago—although not everyone has been impressed. A reviewer in *fab*, a Canadian gay magazine, complained that the kissing "is unconvincing and sloppy. You can almost tell that the straight actors were uncomfortable with some of the scenes."

The film generates considerable pathos around Wilde's fall, but does not penetrate as far into his contradictions as the two plays. Kaufman has built his script entirely from contemporary court records, writings by Wilde and his friends, and newspaper accounts, creating a hard-edged documentary where actors switch roles, use a minimum of props and almost no set. *Gross Indecency* masterfully re-creates the sense of danger and scandal surrounding Wilde's prosecution. It also shows how the author's penchant for cleverness fatally undermined his defence.

But *Gross Indecency* cannot match Hare's play in uncovering the private Wilde. The first half of *The Judas Kiss* attempts to solve the persistent riddle of why Wilde did not flee England when it became clear that the Crown's case against him would almost certainly succeed. Hare's imaginative answer shows Wilde as a complex man whose celebrated sense of style was not a superficial pose but deeply connected to his moral instincts. The play's second half is a moving depiction of his final, 1897 break with Bosie in Naples. It shows Wilde's disillusionment as he realizes how little the young man for whom he has ruined his life loves him. (It was Wilde's lawsuit against Bosie's hated father that brought his own homosexuality to public notice.)

It is impossible to say how close these various portraits come to the real Wilde. For a man who talked and wrote so much, he remains something of a mystery—a sphinx who will undoubtedly provoke future eras to invent the Wildes they need.

JOHN BEMROSE

Adieu to two pioneers

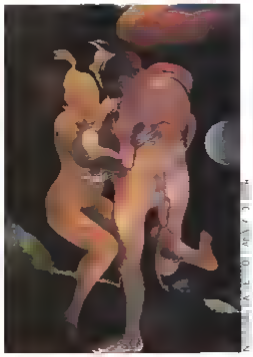
Joyce Wieland 1931-1998

Bill Reid 1920-1998

BRIAN D. JOHNSON

In a contemporary art world ruled by white male abstractionists, they were groundbreaking exceptions—two Canadians whose work was based in earth and flesh, in beauty, fertility and the power of the land. It would be hard to name two more quintessentially Canadian artists than Joyce Wieland and Bill Reid. Both were multimedia pioneers. Wieland—painter, sculptor, quilt-maker and film-maker—was the first female artist to shake up the swaggering boys' club of the Toronto art scene in the late 1950s, a joyful provocateur who drew a lyrical arc between feminism and the feminine. Reid—Haida carver, sculptor, jeweller and broadcaster—won international recognition for North-West Coast carving, taking it from the ethnographic ghetto to fine art glamor, while restoring and enriching the native tradition at its roots. Wieland died on June 27 at age 66, a victim of Alzheimer's disease. Reid died in March at age 78 after a 30-year battle with Parkinson's disease. His ashes were buried last weekend at an ancient Haida site in the Queen Charlotte Islands





Wieland in 1980 with self-portraits, her Paint Phantom (left), exuberant, sensuous and playfully polemical

Joyce Wieland's life and art overflowed with a spirit of reckless affirmation. Her work was sensuous, whimsical and playfully polemical. She expressed a passion for the Canadian landscape and for the female body—the two often merging as ripe metaphors for each other's identity. Her work ranged all over the map, in every sense, and drew on a wild array of materials. Years before the AIDS quilt or the china vaginas of Judy Chicago's *Dinner Party*, Wieland was subverting domestic icons. She became the first woman to elevate traditional female crafts such as embroidery and quilting to high art. Ahead of her time and underappreciated, Wieland was nevertheless honored with major shows at the National Gallery of Canada and the Art Gallery of Ontario, in fact, she became the first living Canadian female artist to be granted a retrospective by the AGO.

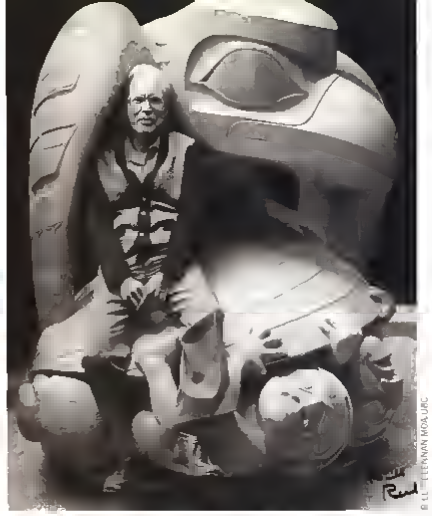
"Joyce was an artist right to her fingertips,' says painter Doris McCarthy, who was her art teacher at Central Technical School in Toronto during the late 1940s and became a lifelong friend. "She had a tremendous sense of vitality, a zest for love, for sex, for color. She also had a feeling for Canada, and a strong sense of the validity of the feminist movement."

The daughter of British immigrant parents—both had died by the time she was 9—Wieland was raised by her older brother and sister in impoverished circumstances. After graduating from high school, she worked as an animator, and met artist Michael Snow, who was her husband for 20 years. While Snow and his male colleagues attacked giant canvases and made big expressionist constructions—such as Snow's stainless steel cutouts of walking women—Wieland made pillowy art with an edge.

For *True Patriot Love*, her 1971 exhibition at the National Gallery, Wieland celebrated national flora in a show accessorized with little bottles of Sweet Beaver, the Perfume of Canadian Liberation. Her *Water Quilt* was made of 64 arctic flowers and grasses embroidered on muslin flaps, concealing passages from a book about resource exploitation printed on 64 little pillows stitched together. In Wieland's hands, words became lip-soft *objets*, slurring the erotic and the political. Her *O Canada* quilt spelled out lyrics from the national anthem in stuffed syllables. On another quilt she hijacked Pierre Trudeau's credo, 'Reason over passion," which also became the title of a trans-Canada odyssey that she filmed from trains and cars.

As an experimental film-maker, Wieland was a ceaseless innovator. In *Rat Life and Diet in North America* (1968), she cast her pet gerbils as American draft dodgers who take up organic gardening. And although *The Far Shore* (1976)—her attempt to make a mainstream drama about love and landscape—failed, it continues to fascinate. Kay Armatage, a film-maker and professor of cinema studies at the University of Toronto, directed a 1987 documentary about Wieland called *Artist on Fire*. "I was so struck by the way Joyce's films stayed alive," she recalls. "They have a conceptual richness that can't be ascribed to just one historical moment. There's a humor that runs through her work, but also a sense of excess and exuberance—a joy in the body, in flesh and in light."





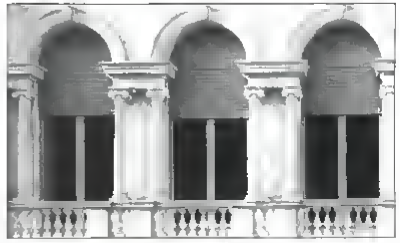
Dogfish necklace, Reid with Raven sculpture: master

Bill Reid's life was an epic voyage, one that involved a trail-blazing portage over the Great Divide of North American history. It took him from an Anglican childhood in Victoria, where he was raised as a whiter-than-white boy in sailor suits and kid gloves in the 1920s, to his final resting place on the site of his Haida mother's ancestral village in the Queen Charlotte Islands. Reid, whose father was an American hotel manager of Scottish-German descent, did not learn that his mother was Haida until his late teens. Then, at 23, he was galvanized by a visit to the Queen Charlottes, where he spent a week watching his grandfather carve. "It hit him with a big bang," says Doris Shadbolt, Vancouver-based author of the 1987 book *Bill Reid*. From then on, she adds, "what drove him was the will to become truly Haida, and to prove to the world that the Haida culture was up there among the best of them."

In 1948, while working as a CBC Radio news announcer, Reid studied jewelry-making at Toronto's Ryerson Technical Institute. Reviving Haida designs, he went on to create exquisite work that, by the mid-1980s, commanded higher prices than that of any living goldsmith. Meanwhile, Reid spearheaded a renaissance of North-West Coast art with silk screens, totems and sculptures. The Haida poles that he carved for the University of British Columbia in 1958 now dominate Vancouver's Museum of Anthropology—also home to his *Raven and the First Men*, depicting mankind crawling out of a clamshell. His life-size bronze killer whale can be seen leaping outside the Vancouver Aquarium. And his ship-of-fools masterpiece, *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*, graces Canada's Embassy in Washington—a canoe overflowing with creatures of Haida mythology.

But Reid often found more pleasure in the miniature than the monumental. "When he was working at his bench, and on his own, it was pure joy," says his wife, Martine, who met him in 1975 as a 30-year-old PhD student in anthropology visiting from France. "But large projects became a little hectic at times." The artist was known for his acerbic wit. Shortly before his death, Martine recalls, he made a print for the Parkinson's foundation. "He said, 'Well, Mr. Parkinson has done so much for me, perhaps it's time I do something for him.'" Reid also had a passion for opera. "We own a little cottage in the Gulf Islands. He would hang speakers on the trees and play music very loud. He'd say, 'We're educating the wildlife.'" □

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Peter C. Newman

How could K. C. Irving make the list?

I've been hanging around *Maclean's* for something like 40 years, but never realized how helpful the magazine can be.

In the July 1 edition, with its usual dedication to what's best for Canada and its customary dash of diligent research, *Maclean's* picked the country's leaders in every category over the past 100 years. The best of the best.

"Canada," trumpeted its headline in the business section, "is famous for entrepreneurs. The greatest of them all, *Maclean's* believes, was K. C. Irving, the man who built an empire in New Brunswick and, in the process, made himself one of the world's richest men."

I was delighted to find out about K.C., whose corporate enlightenment and creative accomplishments had somehow slipped my attention.

Since the 1990s are the age of the entrepreneur, I am happy to pass on some of K.C.'s entrepreneurial qualifications that were somehow missed by Jack Granatstein, the good professor who wrote the accompanying commentary. I do this in the spirit of public service, which has become a tradition of this page under the convalescing Dr. Foth.

Nothing is more important than to provide role models for today's bright and bushy-tailed young entrepreneurs. How else can they have a shot at the top slot when *Maclean's* repeats its contest in the year 2998?

It's not that hard.

The first rule is to eliminate your competition. Not some of it, all of it. K.C., for example, was a great champion of the free press, as long as he owned every English-speaking newspaper, as well as most TV and radio stations in the province. When he left the country for Bermuda, the *Saint John Telegraph Journal* editorialized: "Is New Brunswick richer or poorer because he has taken his leave? Does the sun shine? Is there water in the ocean? Is it dark at night? There are some questions which do not need answers . . ." (Actually there were, but the *Saint John Telegraph Journal* wasn't about to answer them.)

David Walsh of Bre-X was not on the list, but he and Irving shared at least one attitude important to aspiring entrepreneurs: take the money and run. Taxes are for losers. K.C. abandoned his Canadian residency on Jan. 10, 1972, though he ran his empire with an iron fist for the next 20 years. Except for the $899,156 he willed to Winifred (his secretary and second wife), his estate of $7 billion was left to a Bermuda Trust with very precise instructions: his sons could not claim the money unless they, too, became non-residents of Canada, to ensure that Ottawa never got a penny in taxes.

Another important lesson: it's much more fun to make your money from governments, and then not pay them taxes. Much of Irving's biggest profits were from his $9.3-billion federal contract to build a dozen patrol frigates for Canada's navy. His other great money-making source was cutting trees on Crown lands, leased at the most favorable stumpage rates anywhere on earth.

Here again, an important lesson: great entrepreneurs waste nothing. There were even some shore dwellers along the rivers that carried Irving timber to his mills who dared not pick up the odd log that had separated from his rafts for use as firewood, out of fear of being prosecuted for possessing stolen property. Somehow K.C. also had a law put on the books that if one of his logs sank a pleasure craft or fishing boat, he couldn't be held responsible.

> The industrialist had some basic tenets: eliminate your competition; never give money away; and taxes are for losers

Another clue: never give any money away. K.C. made so few charitable donations that nobody in the region remembers any, but he also wouldn't allow his workers to contribute. When Philip Oland was running Moosehead Breweries in Saint John, and was also head of the local United Way, he gave K.C. a lift to the airport, and mildly suggested that he allow voluntary payroll deductions for his employees so they could give $10 a month to their community. "K.C. went berserk," Oland told me, recalling the incident, "he started banging the car's instrument panel and said he would never allow such a thing."

Ignore the environment. When his barge, the Irving Whale, sank in the St. Lawrence and began leaking the dangerous heating fluid it had been carrying, K.C. refused to pay the $42 million it had cost the Canadian Coast Guard to raise it.

Make certain your corporate structure is too complicated to follow. When the crew of one of K.C.'s tankers, the Irving Ours Polaire, sought union certification, they were literally unable to obtain the name of the Irving subsidiary that owned the vessel and couldn't proceed with their application.

Control politicians. K.C. supported most New Brunswick Liberals, including Premier John McNair, until he noticed that one of his small bus lines, from St. Anthony in Kent County to Moncton, wasn't making enough profit. He was overcharging so much that local commuters started to organize car pools. K.C. went to Fredericton and ordered McNair to outlaw car pools. When the premier calmly pointed out that he couldn't do that, Irving helped throw him out of office by backing his Conservative opponent.

Finally, don't hire Charlie McElman as your PR guy: "That Irving empire," McElman, a New Brunswick Senator once observed, hiding behind his parliamentary privilege, "operates with the power of a lion, the appetite of a vulture, the grace of an elephant, the instinct of a barracuda and the principles of an alley cat."

But then, if you were K. C. Irving, you didn't need PR guys. There was always historian Jack Granatstein.

Allan Fotheringham is on leave

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